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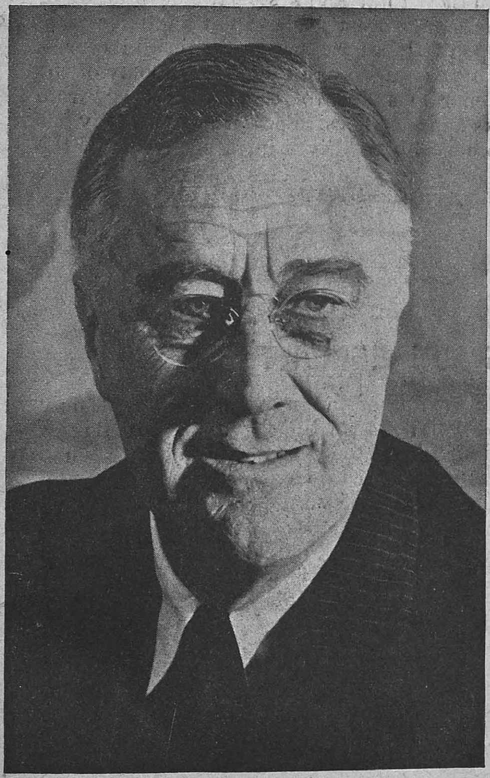
# MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1943 No. 4

# RUSSIA'S SLEDGE-HAMMER BLOWS



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

*Every* American is thrilled by the sledge-hammer blows delivered against Nazi aggressors by the Russian armies This summer there has been no successful German advance against the Russians as in 1941–42

*The* shoe to-day is on the other foot—and is pinching very hard. Instead, the Russians have forced the greatest military reversal since Napoleon's retreat in 1812 The recapture of Kharkov, Stalino and other strongholds by the Russians opening up the Ukraine and the Donetz Basin and the freeing of millions of valuable acres and hundreds of inhabited places hearten the whole world as the Russian campaign moves towards the elimination of every German from the Russian soil—toward invasion of Germany itself

*It* is certain that the campaign in North Africa, the occupation of Sicily, the fighting in Italy and compelling a large number of German planes to go into combat in the skies over Holland, Belgium and France by reason of our air attacks have given important help to the Russian armies along their advancing front from Leningrad to the Black Sea

*We* know, too, we are contributing to that advance by making Germany keep many divisions in the Balkans, southern France and along the English Channel

*I* like to think that these words constitute an under-statement

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, in a message to the U.S. Congress, on September 17

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# LUFTWAFFE ON THE DEFENSIVE

The weight of bombs discharged by the Royal Air Force on Germany in the last 12 months is three times that of the preceding 12 months; the weight of bombs discharged in the last three months is half as great again as that of the preceding three months. There has also been a great improvement in the accuracy owing to technical devices. The percentage of loss for the first eight months of 1943 is less than that in the same period of last and the morale and ardour of our bombing crews is very high. Almost a total and systematic destruction of many of the centres of German war effort continues on a great scale and at a greater pace. The havoc wrought is indescribable. The efforts upon German war production in all its forms and upon U-boat building are matched by those produced upon the life and economy of the whole of that guilty organization. There has been enormous diversion of German energy from the war fronts to internal defence against air attacks and the offensive power of the enemy has been notably crippled thereby. The German air force has been driven increasingly on to the defensive.

—*Mr. CHURCHILL, reviewing war situation in the Commons on September 21.*

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# NO SLACKENING OF EFFORT

I have ventured to dwell on those favourable aspects of the war against Japan only because I know it is realised throughout the United States that the slightest slackening of effort would destroy all these favourable tendencies. These tendencies depend on a small margin and any slackening of effort might allow them to come into a stagnant condition and might well find ourselves condemned to a long-drawn process of vital expenditure of life and treasure. It is the pace that kills.

—*Mr. CHURCHILL, reviewing war situation in the Commons on September 21.*

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# JAP NAVAL LOSSES

*(From start of War to 17th September 1943)*

*Note.*—Japanese naval losses are compiled weekly from United States Naval communiqués, as well as from reports issued by General MacArthur's headquarters. Because of possible minor duplications, which cannot be determined at the time reports are issued, the two totals cannot be accurately combined.

SUMMARY FROM NAVAL COMMUNIQUES.

| *Combatant ships.* | *Sunk.* | *Probably sunk.* | *Damaged.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Battleships .. .. | 2 | .. | 9 |
| Aircraft carriers .. .. | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Cruisers .. .. .. | 26 | 4 | 47 |
| Destroyers .. .. .. | 76 | 21 | 62 |
| Submarines .. .. | 6 | 1 | 6 |
| Tenders .. .. .. | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Unspecified types .. | 25 | 3 | 17 |
| Total .. | 142 | 31 | 152 |
| *Non-combatant ships* .. | 275 | 27 | 121 |

SUMMARY FROM MACARTHUR'S COMMUNIQUES.

| *Combatant ships.* | *Sunk.* | *Probably sunk.* | *Damaged.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Battleships .. .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Aircraft carriers .. .. | 1 | .. | 2 |
| Cruisers .. .. | 11 | .. | 22 |
| Destroyers .. .. | 21 | 3 | 28 |
| Submarines .. .. | 10 | .. | 2 |
| Tenders .. .. | 2 | .. | .. |
| Gunboats .. .. | 4 | .. | .. |
| Torpedo boats .. .. | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Unspecified types .. | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Total .. | 51 | 5 | 57 |
| *Non-combatant ships* .. | 432 | 31 | 238 |
| *Unidentified* .. .. | 31 | 1 | 15 |

In addition to these ships reported as sunk, probably sunk and damaged by General MacArthur's forces, there are 438 miscellaneous small craft such as barges, fishing boats, etc., which have been "sunk or damaged."

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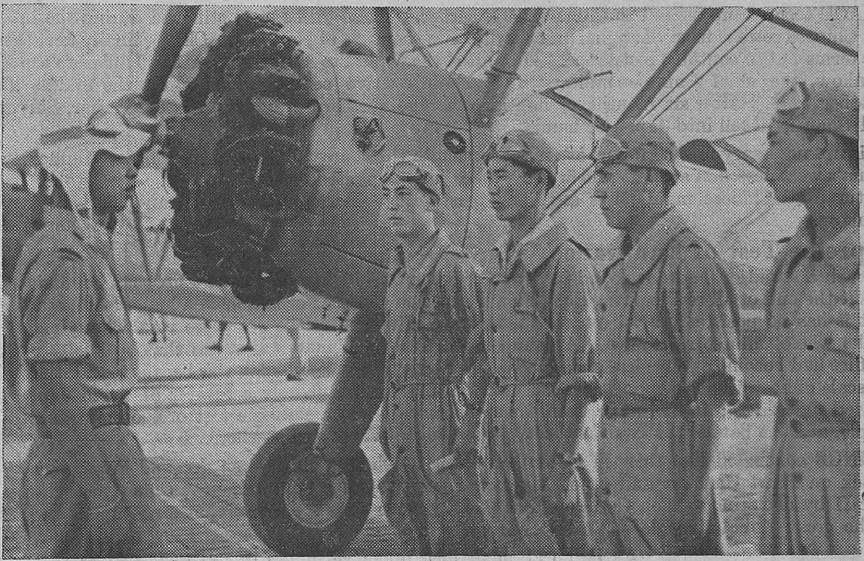


*YOUNG CHINA FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM: A Chinese Air Force Cadets' School has been established in India, where Chinese youth undergo training. Photo shows "Briefing" by the instructor.*

# CHINA: 'MUKDEN INCIDENT' AND AFTER

IN a statement issued on Saturday last (September 18), on the anniversary of the 'Mukden incident,' Mr. Cordell Hull, the United States Secretary of State, said, "It (the incident) is regarded in many quarters as dating the present life-and-death struggle throughout the world, in which peaceful-minded nations are engaged with the forces of aggression. Through six long years the Chinese people have stood staunchly behind their armies and, under circumstances of great economic deprivation and physical hardships, have continued bravely to oppose the enemy." It has been a marvellous feat of resistance and endurance against great odds, but China has stood the ground. The wonder of it all lies in the fact that she was weak, ill-equipped, and ill-organized when Japan began her undeclared war, but that she has been able to continue the struggle all these years.

IT all began with the Mukden bomb incident in 1931, which was used by Japan as a pretext for the seizure of Manchuria. Though there was nothing spectacular about the incident itself from the point of view of immediate consequences, it is stated to be a turning point in Japanese history comparable with Mussolini's march on Rome and Hitler's accession to power.

AT first, China did not want a war with Japan: she had neither the strength nor the inclination. But later on, Japan's continued aggression roused the national consciousness of the Chinese. It roused it to such an extent that there was a strong demand for the suspension of the civil war with the Communists; and this feeling culminated in the Sianfu mutiny. Particularly the Chinese youth staged demonstrations for a policy of active resistance to Japan.

## The Spark and the Conflagration

THINGS had reached such a psychological pitch that when Japan presented new demands in the summer of 1937, there seemed to be no question of yielding. What was wanted was only a spark to bring about a conflagration, and this was supplied when Japanese soldiers who were supposed to be engaged in military exercises, exchanged shots with a Chinese post stationed at Lukowkiao bridge which is about 12 miles from Peking. This was on July 7, 1937.

SOON after, Japanese troops in Manchuria were flung into action on Peking with a speed and precision that showed previous preparation. Additional troops were brought in from Japan and Manchukuo. Towards the end of July there were some minor clashes at Langfang on the Peking-Tientsin Railway, and a large-scale Japanese offensive against Peking, the old capital of China, followed.

CHIANG-KAI-SHEK, the great leader of China, would not countenance any question of appeasement with Japan. He issued a statement declaring that there could be no settlement which would

> "infringe upon the territorial integrity and sovereign rights of the nation. If Peking should become a second Mukden, what is to prevent Nanking from becoming a second Peking?"

HE was replying to proposals to withdraw from Peking to Nanking. Chinese policy towards the aggression of Japan was then clearly and firmly enunciated by the Chinese leader in the following words :—

"Let us realise that once war has begun there is no looking backward ; we must fight to the bitter end, if we allow one more inch of our territory to be lost, we commit an unpardonable offence against our race. What would be left to us except to throw every resource of our nation into the struggle for final victory ?"

## From Peking to Nanking

PEKING was occupied, and then Tientsin. Two weeks elapsed before any big military operations could be staged by the Chinese. It was only after fighting began in the international town of Shanghai that it was clear that the war would embrace the whole of China. Terrific fighting took place from August 13 onwards. The Chinese displayed great courage, but they were inexperienced ; when their left flank was threatened by Japanese troops which landed on the lower bank of the Yangtze river ten days later, they began to retreat from Shanghai. The Japanese moved forward and captured the Chinese capital of Nanking on December 13. The worst outrages possible were committed by the Japanese in Nanking.

PEACE terms were offered to China a little earlier. These terms were stiffened during the interval between the Chinese retreat from Shanghai and the Japanese capture of Nanking. Chiang finally decided not to accept the terms but to continue resistance. He shifted the capital to Chungking, a 1,000 miles up the Yangtze river. Hankow, the chief Chinese military and administrative centre, which is on the middle Yangtze fell in October 1938. After six months of fighting, the five northern provinces, Hopei, Chahar, Sinyuan, Shantung and Shansi, all fell into Japanese hands.

IT is not necessary now to follow at any great length the course of the war in China. Suffice it to say that China's weaknesses in aircraft and artillery were fully exploited by the Japanese. By October 1939, Japan had captured all Chinese main ports and its largest cities—Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, Nanking, Canton and Hankow.

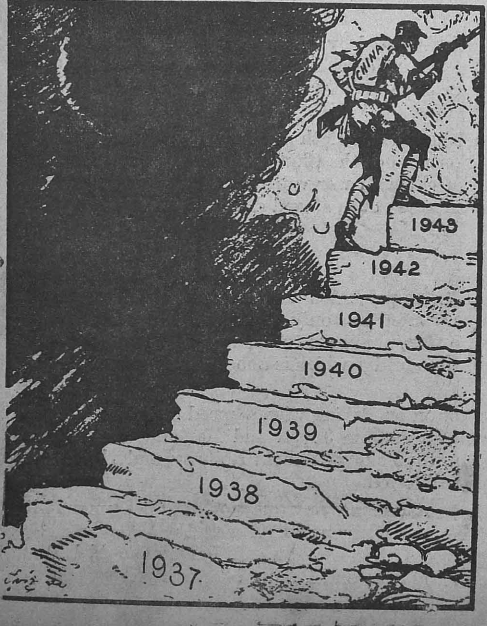
## Supreme Test of Endurance

IF such a situation had developed in a war between two highly organized European countries it would have meant the end of all resistance. But China would not yield. For it is such a huge, loose, amorphous country that it has no positively vital centre, the capture of which by the Japanese would have meant the collapse of the whole Chinese resistance. A commentator on the Chinese war states that by 1939 the Sino-Japanese conflict had become at once less and more than a war ; it was less than a war because, after the fall of Hankow, the scale of hostilities sharply decreased and fighting became merely a matter of small Japanese drives for limited objectives ; it was more than a war because it was a supreme test of the endurance of the Chinese people, and the battle front was at the same time everywhere and nowhere.

THINGS continued like this till December 7, 1941, when America was dragged into war by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour and other American bases. And on December 7, China took its place in World War II by declaring war on Germany and Italy. Since then the Sino-Japanese War has become a real part of the great global struggle against Fascism.

IN the near future, there may be an all-out Allied offensive in the Pacific as a part of the global strategy, against Japan. Lord Louis Mountbatten has been appointed Supreme Allied Commander and the headquarters of his South-East Asia Command will be at New Delhi.

THE ring is closing round Japan from different directions, and this has been pointed out by President Roosevelt in a message to the U.S. Congress on Friday last (September 17). He said, General Tojo and his murderous gang "may look to the East or the West. They can see closing in on them from all directions the forces of retribution under Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, General MacArthur, Admiral Nimitz and Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten. The forces operating against Japan in the various Pacific theatres are just as much inter-related and dependent on one another as our forces pounding against Germany in Europe." China's great struggle has merged into the world struggle for freedom and its liberation from the clutches of the Japanese octopus is only a question of time.




**War Services Exhibition**

**—— A SOUVENIR ——**

**With** this number of the "Madras War Review" is issued, as a supplement, a sixteen-page Illustrated Souvenir of the Madras War Services Exhibition - -

# RUNNING COMMENTARY

**Hitler breaks 6 months' silence—and makes an admission about Italy !**

HITLER has broken his spell of six months' silence by a harangue to the German people, in the course of which he admits that Italy was dragged into the war much against the wish of the Italians. After stating that the time had come when he could speak "without being under the necessity of deluding either myself or the public," he referred to the collapse of Italy which "had been long foreseen," and said,

> "the same forces who to-day brought about the capitulation succeeded in August 1939 in preventing Italy from entering the war."

This statement clearly shows that the Italian people as a whole did not have their heart in the war. HITLER said that it was because of his intervention that North Africa was saved from being lost to Italy in 1940 and that it was again his intervention in 1941 that forced Italy to continue to participate in the war. In spite of all these sacrifices made "at a moment when she (Germany) herself was under the imminent threat of a Bolshevik offensive," HITLER could not win over to his side,

> "those elements who, to crown their systematic sabotage, have now brought about the capitulation."

A German military spokesman has also echoed HITLER'S views that Italy was not wholeheartedly in the war. In a talk broadcast from Berlin a fortnight ago (September 10), he said,

> "Most of the reverses in this war are due to the failure of the Italian Officers Corps, not only in Africa and Sicily, but on the Eastern Front also."

MUSSOLINI himself has admitted the fact, for the first time, that there were important and influential sections in Italy which were against the country's participation in the war. In a speech broadcast over the Italian radio on Saturday last (September 18), MUSSOLINI referred to the sensational happenings of July 25 and the events that followed the reorganization of the party running the Government, and said,

> "The people are arguing about the new name of the party. These are the same people who always put the brakes on the progress of the regime, who always try to sabotage its accomplishments in the social field, and even its development in the national and imperial sphere . . . During the whole of the war, the Royal dynasty has been the mainspring of defeatism and anti-German propaganda. They took no interest in the course of fighting which they always followed with prudent mental reservations, while the Crown Prince who expressed a desire to take over the command of the armies of the South, never appeared on the field of battle. I am now convinced that the House of Savoy willed, prepared and organized the *coup d'etat* down to the smallest details, with the complicity of Marshal BADOGLIO, cowardly Generals, as well as many rascally members of the Fascist Party."

MUSSOLINI'S irritation is only natural, but the point is—he admits that all along—he did not carry the support not only of important elements within his own party and the nation, but also of the Head of the State himself.

* * *

**Italians dragged into the war—Badoglio's exhortation.**

There is no doubt that the bulk of the Italian people who were dragged into the war are now anxious to do what they can to help the Allies. In a message to them, which was read over the United Nations' radio at Algiers on Monday (September 20), Marshal BADOGLIO said,

> "To-day to resist is to exist. It is the only way. Italians, you have the power and means in your hands, especially guerilla war of which you have an example on the other side of the Adriatic. The Germans want to harm us . . . It is your absolute duty to fight on at the side of the British and the Americans against the Germans and against a few senseless Italians—no longer worthy of such name—who put themselves at their command . . . We cannot allow the Germans to treat our country as occupied territory, to destroy our towns to save their own, to drag our brothers and sisters away to Germany. We cannot allow the Germans to loot our homes, steal our property, kill our soldiers and workers and insult our women."

## REMEMBER THE DEFEATED

*By* R.G.

Woman with the bundle by the roadside
and red eyes, why do you cry so loud ?
— Stranger, I have lost my husband and children
and my home in which I was happy and proud.

Child, why do you stand on the pavement
weeping with bony fingers in your eyes ?
— O Sir, I am so tired and hungry ;
Father's dead and my mother dying lies.

Gaunt scarecrow, once a man, why so hopeless
your look and your hands hanging limply down ?
— This, Sir, is what they have made of me
driving me out of the burning town.

Do you hear, comfortable ones, the defeated
who wander without help the long way
from one place of no rest to another ?
In your heart falls not at all what they say ?

Comfortable ones, thank the courageous
who stood between you and that doom.
Safe ones, open the purse and the heart strings ;
by your fireside make a little room.

Behind the avengers be you united ;
sweep away the terror and make clean
a place of rest for the sad lost ones
who for your peace a sacrifice have been.

**German "Honour" on the Battlefield.**

Referring to German criticisms of the Italian Government's policy, Marshal BADOGLIO said :

"How dare the Germans speak of honour, when they deserted our divisions on the Don, in Libya, in Tunisia and in Calabria ? British and Americans—old comrades in arms of Piave and Vittorio Veneto—did not hesitate to declare that their ultimate aim is the resurrection of a strong and united Italy. They will not deny us their assistance when the time comes to make good the damage of war and to rebuild our future."

This appeal has evoked a warm response from the leaders of the United Nations. Speaking in the House of Commons three days ago (September 21), Mr. CHURCHILL said :

"MUSSOLINI used his arbitrary power to strike for material gain at falling France and became an enemy of the British Empire which had, for so many years, cherished the cause of Italian liberty. There was the crime, and though it cannot be undone and though nations who allowed their rights and liberty to be subverted by tyrants must suffer heavy penalties for the crimes of those tyrants, yet I cannot view the Italian action at this juncture as other than natural and human. May it prove to be the first of a series of acts of self-redemption! . . . The Italian people have already suffered terribly. Their manhood has been cast away in Africa and Russia. Their soldiers have been deserted in the field. Their wealth has been squandered. Their empire has been lost—irretrivably lost."

* * * *

**Italians and Germans—Allies to treat them differently.**

Mr. CHURCHILL added that the treatment of the Germans would be different from that of the Italian people. He said :

"Twice in our lifetime, and also three times in that of our fathers, they have plunged the world into their wars of expansion and aggression. They do not value freedom themselves and the spectacle of it in others is hateful to them . . . I am sure the British, American and Russian peoples who have suffered measureless waste, peril and bloodshed twice in a quarter of a century through that Teutonic urge for domination will, this time, take steps to put it beyond the power of Prussia for all Germany to come at them again with pent-up vengeance and long-nurtured plans. Nazi tyranny and Prussian militarism are the two main elements in human life which must be absolutely destroyed."

President ROOSEVELT in a message to the United States Congress on Friday last (September 17) has also expressed a similar view. He said :

"There is one thing I want to make perfectly clear when HITLER and the Nazis go out, the Prussian military clique must go with them. The war-breeding gangs of militarists must be rooted out of Germany—and out of Japan—if we are to have any real assurance of the future peace."

* * * *

**Italy's desertion and Hitler's pretence of indifference.**

HITLER does not want that the fate that overtook MUSSOLINI should befall him. That is why he has taken all possible precautions to strengthen the home front by appointing HIMMLER as his Minister of the Interior. He declared that there would be no July 25 in Germany and that there would be no traitors like BADOGLIO in present-day Germany. He said, "More than ever before they (the Allies) will have an opportunity of realising that the German leadership is a fanatically-united whole" This statement seems to show that HITLER is seeing shadows of coming events.

As regards the exit of one of the Axis partners, HITLER said, "Italy's desertion is of very little military importance," but it is doubtful whether any class of Germans really believe what he said,—for they must all remember his important declaration before the Reichstag on January 30, 1939. He then said :

"Nationalist Socialist Germany is well aware of the fate that awaits her if ever an international power, whatever its motive, succeeds in overcoming Fascist Italy."

People who have been saying that Italian Fascism was the twin-brother of German Nazism cannot now pretend that Italy's unconditional surrender is a matter of no consequence. For it must be evident to everybody that the whole of southern Germany and the German positions in the Balkans can be attacked from the air with Italy as a spring-board.

Dr. GOEBBELS, of course, has long been adjusting his propaganda to suit the expected collapse of Italy. The boasts of a strong and impregnable "fortress of Europe" had given place to references to the strength of the "fortress of Germany." But the fortress, whether of Germany or of Europe, is without a roof! In his message to the United States Congress, President ROOSEVELT referred to this and said :

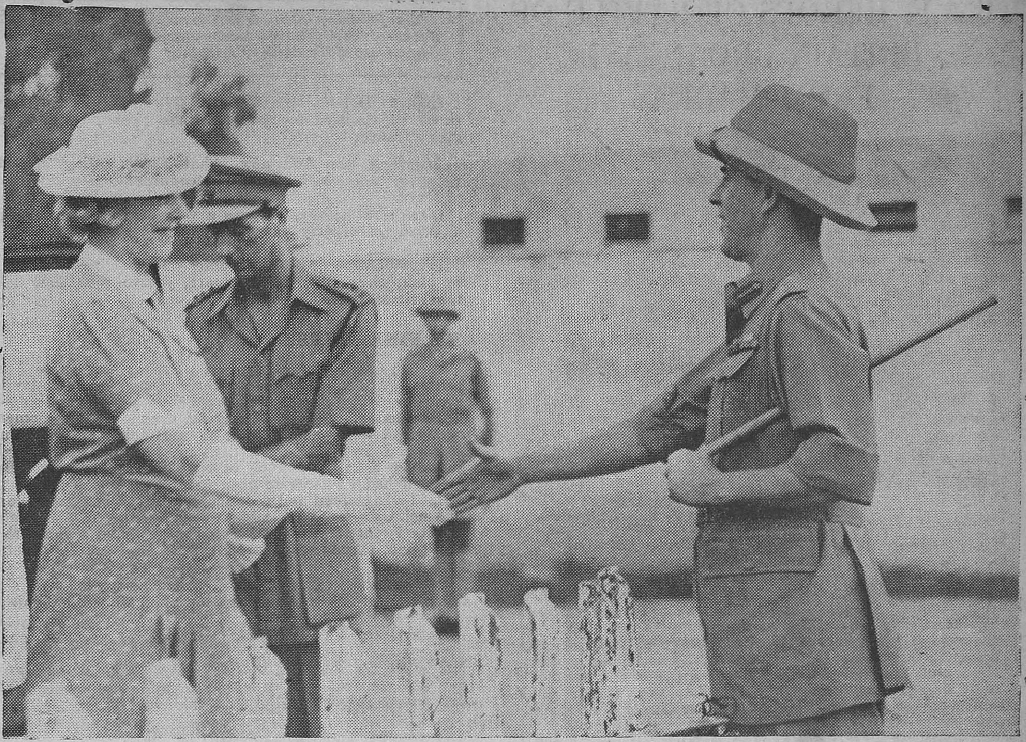
"When HITLER was forced to the conclusion that his offensive was broken and he must go on the defensive, he started boasting that he had converted Europe into an impregnable fortress. But he neglected to provide that fortress with a roof. He always left various other vulnerable spots in the wall of the so-called fortress—which we shall point out to him in due time."

HITLER may boast that the war situation so far as Germany is concerned has not materially changed. But the progress of the Allies towards the north in the battle of Italy and the advance of the Red Army towards the west in the direction of Germany itself, as indicated by President ROOSEVELT, have their own tale to tell.

## OFFENSIVE AGAINST JAPAN

The offensive is already on foot on a considerable scale in various parts of the Pacific. The main strength of the United States is deployed in that ocean. The main weight of the offensive operations there is in the Solomons and New Guinea, where General MacArthur is conducting a large-scale offensive. The first steps were taken by the eviction of the Japanese from Guadalcanar and from Papua. These were exploited by the landings which took place on July 30 on New Georgia island and on September 4 in Huon Bay, north-east of Lae. New Georgia has been cleared of the enemy and the twin bases of Salamaua and Lae were reduced in a manner which shows the remarkable development in the use of amphibious and air-borne power and which furnished another opportunity for the Ninth Australian Division to display to the Japanese their qualities which the Germans tested at El Alamein. These operations give great promise for the future and they will unfold stage by stage as months pass by.

—*Mr. CHURCHILL on September* 21.



*The Marchioness of Linlithgow bade farewell to the W.A.C. (I) on the eve of her departure to England at a special parade at Irwin Stadium, New Delhi, India, held on the 9th instant. Her Excellency is Commandant-in-Chief of the Force. Photograph shows Major-General C. W. Toovey greeting the Marchioness on her arrival at the Stadium.*

# RECRUITMENT AND THE WAR EFFORT

*By* DIWAN BAHADUR M. RAMAN, M.L.C.

TO-DAY the war has come to our front doors. It does not know battlefields and battlefronts. It is anywhere and everywhere. We now realize that we should destroy the Axis outright and see that it does not lift its head again. The vast material sacrifice and the tremendous sacrifice in men would all be in vain, if realising the dangers to our people and our country, we do not help the prosecution of the war in the best way open to each one of us. Every one of us, young and old, can do some useful service. Those who cannot fight can do other service or subscribe to the war fund. But for service in actual fight you, the youth of the land, should come forward and should do so in hundreds and thousands. You, young men, are lucky—luckier than older men. You can take up arms. Besides learning this noble and useful art, you will have opportunities of seeing different countries and peoples and of gaining vast human experience. Already many of our men have won laurels. They are giving a very good account of themselves. It was Indian troops who, in December 1940, formed the spearhead of Wavell's epic offensive. The Viceroy-designate has recently declared that without India, the Middle East could not have been held.

The war began on 3rd September 1939. Early in 1940 recruitment of men to the different branches of the Army began. The response, although slow at the outset, was extremely satisfactory later. There was very good response. This province has beaten all the other provinces in the number of men recruited. It has beaten them also in the quality of the men selected. Modern war is a mechanized war and this requires education and intelligence. Both these are abundantly available in this Province. This is therefore your chance as it has been the chance of hundreds of young men who have already been enlisted.

In 1942, September, I went with a deputation to see Secunderabad, Bombay, Deolali and Mhow. And I found the officers, technicians and other ranks in all these places very happy, carefully looked after and very well trained. They were keeping excellent health. I was filled with pride especially when I saw our young officers, of whom I had good accounts from the Military officers in charge.

## KING'S COMMISSION

All the recruitments, except for the three branches of the King's Commission, are done by the Recruiting Officers, Assistant Recruiting Officers and Extra Assistant Recruiting Officers. I can only give you in the time at my disposal only a list of the different categories.

The first and most important one is the recruitment to the **ranks as regular soldiers.** Men of proper age and physique are recruited, and recruitment to this was far more than our expectations.

For technical personnel, applications are to be sent to the Technical Recruiting Officer.

Clerks, both combatant and non-combatant, are selected by the Recruiting Branch.

Application forms and particulars can be easily obtained from any Recruiting Officer who also tours his district. In Madras you can get them from the Recruiting Officer, Pudupet Lines.

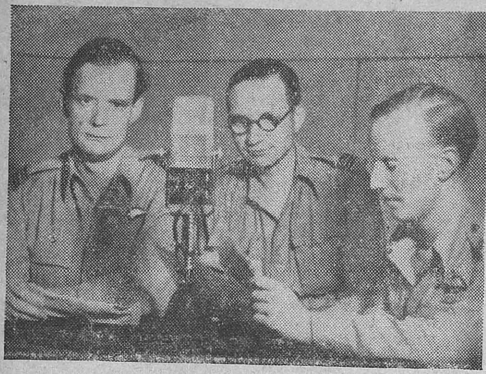
There is a Technical Training Scheme for those between the ages of 17 and 40. Men may undergo training in a number of trades. The Chairman, National Service Labour Tribunal, has his office in Madras to whom applications should be made by those in Madras. In the mufassal they may be sent through the Collector of the district. The Chairman, National Service Labour Tribunal, also selects boys—Bevin boys—to be sent to England for advanced practical training in industries. Six batches have already been sent and some have returned after training and are employed in different industries.

## VICEROY'S COMMISSION

Candidates are directly recruited for the Viceroy's Commissioned Officers also. Age-limit—18 to 30. Qualifications—School Final or equivalent examination. The recruitment is done by the Recruiting Officer. Twice in the last few months, the Secretary, Recruitment Sub-Committee, advertised in the papers in respect of this. On the first occasion, he received about 2,000 applications against 500 wanted, and the second about 1,200. It is not generally known by the young men that this (V.C.O.) is a very good and honourable place. With the required qualifications, one can easily get in and if good at his work he is likely to get promoted even to the King's Commission. Our Subedars and Subedar-Majors of old were very highly respected both by the Government and the people. The recruitment to this branch may be closed earlier than to the other branches and I would advise young men not to lose good time.

*(Continued on page 11)*

# R.A.F. HEROES OF BATTLE OF BRITAIN BROADCAST FROM MADRAS



*Members of the R.A.F. who broadcast this interview from Madras on the anniversary of the Battle of Britain.*

*The following interview was broadcast from the Madras Station of the All-India Radio on September 15, the third anniversary of the Battle of Britain.*

INTERVIEWER: Three years ago to-day—Sunday, September 15—pilots of Fighter Command enjoyed their 'greatest day' against the Luftwaffe in the Battle of Britain. On September 15, 1940, between breakfast and teatime, the enemy lost 185 aircraft, besides many damaged and 'probables.' The Royal Air Force losses were only 25 aircraft, from which 14 pilots were saved. This represents in personnel 11 lost against 500 of the enemy.

On the eve of the Battle of Britain Goebbels boasted that Luftwaffe 'had prepared the final conquest of the last enemy—England.' His Nazi pilots did their utmost to implement that boast. They paid dearly. The British airmen, undaunted by tremendous odds, ruthless, resolute, triumphant, shot the enemy from the skies and saved Britain.

## TWO YOUTHFUL VETERANS

To-night it is my privilege to introduce to you two youthful veterans of the Battle of Britain—Squadron Leader J. H. Lacey, D.F.M. and Bar, and Flight Lieutenant B. R. Noble. Both these officers are now serving in India with the Royal Air Force . . . S/L Lacey . . .

LACEY: Good evening, listeners. If there is one thing more than another I'm scared of, it's a misrophone. I'd rather be *in* than *on* the air.

INTERVIEWER: Well, forget your nerves, and give us, first of all, a little gon about yourself . . . and no line-shooting.

LACEY: I'm just an ordinary sort of chap. I don't drink, smoke, play cards . . . much! My home's in Weatherby, near Leeds. After I left school I studied to become a chemist. In January 1937 I decided to give up filling medicine bottles for flying. I joined the Volunteer Reserve of the Royal Air Force, eventually got my wings and blossomed out as a sergeant pilot.

INTERVIEWER: Have you always been a fighter pilot?

LACEY: Yes, although I don't say a good fighter pilot. You haven't got to be a good pilot to knock down Jerries or Japs; just a pretty good shot. My father bought me my first gun when I was four years old. He was pretty deadly with a rifle and he taught me to shoot.

INTERVIEWER: If I may say so, you must have been a very apt pupil. I believe I'm right in saying you've shot down 27 Hun planes, besides many damaged and probables.

LACEY: Yes, that's right. Twenty-seven destroyed. But I didn't get them all in the Battle of Britain. I hacked down five over France before the Dunkirk act, eighteen in the Battle of Britain and four during sweeps when we started giving Jerry a dose of his own medicine.

INTERVIEWER: What enemy aircraft were your favourite sport?

LACEY: They were all favourites. I saw more ME 109s than any others. I got seventeen of them.

INTERVIEWER: What type of fighter were you flying?

LACEY: During the Battle of Britain I was on Hurricanes. I changed to Spitfires when I went on to sweeps over France.

INTERVIEWER: And now, what about telling us something of your most exciting encounter?

LACEY: Certainly. It was a very smart brush with my C.O. in the orderly room!

INTERVIEWER: And I suppose you withdrew according to plan, oh? But, joking apart, you've been shot down nine times, haven't you?

## MY NINE LIVES

LACEY: Yes, nine altogether. I've had my nine lives, you see . . . I baled out three times and force-landed six. My first bale-out was over France. But talking of excitement . . . I think the most exciting moments of my life were when I took on a Heinkel 113—the only occasion I had ever seen one, at the time. I thought it would be a good type to have in my logbook. But before I had a chance to open fire I had four more on my tail. I went round and round a small wood below tree level like nobody's business, and they followed. Was I frightened! Eventually, when I came up to have a look, they had gone. And was I relieved!

INTERVIEWER: I've heard that it was you who shot down the first Heinkel which bombed Buckingham Palace.

LACEY: So they told me, afterwards. It was on a Friday—the thirteenth of September. I found him over Maidstone. I shot him down all right, but his rear gunner got me, too. I caught fire and baled out. The Jerries caught fire and didn't bale out!

INTERVIEWER: And this happened on a Friday and the thirteenth! You are not the superstitious type?

LACEY: No, but I expect the Jerries would have been, had they lived to tell the tale . . . Four days later I was hanging on a parachute again. I had taken on fifteen ME 109s. I was never good at maths and I soon found out there were too many for me. They hacked me down and I had to bale out.

INTERVIEWER: What about September 15? Did you get a look in among the scores of Huns our boys knocked down that day.

LACEY: I did two sorties on the fifteenth. I got three confirmed and one damaged. I shan't forget that morning. Our squadron got split up and I found myself among twelve yellow-nosed ME 109s. I dived under them, then swooped upwards and hacked the rearmost Messerschmitt down. The other Huns apparently didn't know what had happened to the chap at the back. I went on, did a half-roll off the top of my loop and came in from the rear. I damaged a second and probably a third—I know I hit him—and then decided that discretion was the better part of valour and broke off the party.

INTERVIEWER: Did you come through all your combats without a personal injury?

LACEY: Practically. A bullet nicked a bit off the top of my scalp and another took a lump of flesh out of my left index finger. Neither gave me anything to worry about.

INTERVIEWER: When did you get the D.F.M.?

LACEY: In August 1940.

INTERVIEWER: And when did you win the Bar to it?

LACEY: Sometime in September. Since then I've been vegetating.

INTERVIEWER: I've often been asked: 'Did the pilots in the Battle of Britain realize at the time, that, in effect, they were saving Britain? What is your answer to that?

LACEY: I'm certain the boys didn't give it a thought. It was all part of the game to us. It was a damn good party and all the more the merrier.

INTERVIEWER: And now it's my pleasure to introduce Flight Lieutenant Noble, of Esher, Surrey. I believe you, Flight Lieutenant Noble, enlisted in the Volunteer Reserve in June 1938 and that you were with a Madras Presidency squadron during the Battle of Britain?

(*Continued on page 10*)

*A DISTRICT JUDGE DISCUSSES—*

# HOARDING *and* SAVING

*At an informal discussion group at Mettupalayam recently, Mr. C. Satyanarayana Chowdary, District Judge, Coimbatore, made the following interesting remarks.*

THE sharp rise in prices is a disease. Unless we know the cause we cannot cure the disease. What is the cause for this sudden rice in prices? You will all agree that the chief cause is the hoarder who is trying to exploit the situation to make undue profits for himself. Who is this hoarder and where is he? He is in your midst; he is in every village; he is in every town and he is everywhere. Merchants who stock or withhold grains from circulation in order to inflate prices are responsible for these high prices. Producers on a large scale who hoard their produce expecting prices to go up on a large scale are responsible for these high prices. As prices of food stuffs have gone up even small producers have acquired staying power and they too are falling a prey to the temptation to withhold their stocks expecting prices to go up. Then there is the greedy or selfish consumer. The little produce that is put into the market is bought up by such consumers as are rich and well-to-do in larger quantities sufficient to last for months. Thus very little produce is left in the market and the demand by the general public and the poor people for these food stuffs is more than the supply available in the market. The result is high prices. You will thus see that the main cause for these high prices is with the people themselves and that high prices are due to failure on the part of the classes of people referred to above to realize their responsibilities towards their fellowmen; it is due to their greed, their selfishness and anti-social instincts.

## WHERE IS THE REMEDY?

You will agree with me that people who are behaving in this way are committing a crime against their fellowmen. It is easy to suggest that the Government should fix prices of every commodity and commandeer the grains and other food stuffs but in practice it may not be found to be so easy and it may take a long time before the Government can perfect the machinery to carry out their measures and by then the War will have been over. An easier and a surer remedy is with the people themselves. If people living in each village make up their minds to stop these malpractices by these profiteers and selfish persons by force of public opinion and by giving information to the authorities about such persons the situation can be brought under control very soon and without much difficulty.

If there is a rush for a thing the value of that thing always goes up. This is a simple truth with which you are all familiar in your daily life. Every one of you can help the Government in solving this problem by making up your minds and taking a vow to-day that from to-day you will buy less, as much less as possible, that you will not buy anything that is not absolutely necessary, that you will buy only as much quantity as is necessary to keep you going for a week or two or a month and not more at a time. If you do this, the incentive for hoarding by large producers, small producers, and the merchants will disappear and out of sheer fear that prices might go down from day to day these persons will be compelled to put into the market the goods in their possession.

## PROVIDE FOR THE RAINY DAY

The moment this happens prices go down. When prices go down it means that you will be able to get more for your rupee than you are able to get now and thus save some money out of your present earnings. Except those in Government service everybody else is well off now. Every person is earning more than before. If you cannot save now take it from me that you can never save hereafter. Also remember that you cannot be sure about the conditions of life after the War and you will be wise to make some provision for the rainy day after the War. If the people of each village organize themselves and organize public opinion and act on the lines indicated above they should be able to save something now. There is always the temptation to draw from your savings unless they are secured sufficiently away from you. Therefore you will do well and it will be in your own interests that you should invest these savings in some shape or other so that your money may be fetching you some interest and at the same time be available for circulation for public use. The money thus withdrawn from expenditure and invested will help you and at the same time help the anti-inflation policy started by the Government with a view to help the people at large.

## HOW TO INVEST SAVINGS?

You need not have any hesitation to invest your savings in Government bonds or Defence Savings Certificates. I do not believe that there is any person now who believes that Japan is going to come and occupy this country and that the currency will be useless, though there were mischievous people who were creating this kind of scare when things were rather discouraging for the Allies. There can be no such fear now. Japan is being defeated everywhere. Germany is running away from Russia. Italy has practically collapsed. The United Nations are inexhaustible in their man power and material resources. While the strength of the United Nations is mounting up day by day the strength of the Axis powers is going down rapidly. The collapse of the Axis powers has begun and you know when once collapse begins it may be completed any moment.

Victory for us is certain. All our great Generals and statesmen are agreed that our Victory is a question of time. People who were madly rushing to invest their money in lands and houses by paying abnormal prices on account of scare are now getting more and more confident as they see the Axis powers being defeated every day on the various fronts and as they see the progress made by the Allies. This confidence in the strength of the United Nations is bound to bring down the prices of lands and houses and those who purchase immovable properties to-day paying abnormal prices are bound to repent very soon when these prices go down as they are bound to go down in course of time. The result will be the purchasing power of your money will increase. Under these circumstances it is in your own interests that you save as much as possible now and invest it in Government securities or in Defence Savings Certificates. Some of the gentlemen assembled here who are connected with banks, co-operative societies and mills were telling me that people are slow to invest moneys in Defence Savings Certificates on account of their not being able to understand what these securities mean. To deal with such cases I have suggested to these gentlemen to induce them to invest their money in Co-operative Societies and Banks on the understanding that these societies and banks should invest these amounts in Defence Savings Certificates while holding themselves responsible to the investors for the amounts thus invested. These gentlemen have agreed to do so and I wish them every success in their effort in aid of the War Savings campaign started by the Government.

The Government want the people of this district to save 65 lakhs. Please note that the Government are not asking this amount as a contribution or as subscription. They want you, people of this district, to save this amount. If you save this amount it will be available for your own good after the War. Please remember also that I have not come here to ask you to pay your money for war expenses. I have come here to tell you how necessary it is that you should save now and how it is in your own interests that you should save. After all the voluntary contributions made towards the War Fund by this province would be insignificant if you remember that to-day Britain is spending something like 3 crores of rupees per day. What this province has contributed these four years will not sufficient even for one day's expenditure for the War in England. I am mentioning this to show that you are not now asked to contribute towards the War in Europe or in the Pacific.

## WORK FOR YOUR OWN GOOD

I want you to work on the lines indicated above for your own good. No man has a right to ask another to help him out of his difficulties unless and until he does his best and thus tries to help himself out of his difficulties. Every religion makes it clear that even God can help only those who help themselves. Unless people living in each village realize and understand the real causes for their troubles and unless they do their best to remove it and thus help themselves they will not be justified in expecting the Government to help them out of their difficulties. The Government is always anxious to help the people in their difficulties and they are doing their best. If the efforts of the Government have not been able to remove all your difficulties, it is because you are not playing your part by co-operating with the Government. If you do that I assure you that the results of the efforts of the Government in these directions will be much better and your difficulties will disappear sooner.

# EXPORTS OF GRAINS

SINCE statements are still appearing in the press that heavy exports of foodgrains from India, and from Bengal in particular, are continuing, the Government of India wish to state categorically that there is no foundation whatever for such statements. In a recent press note it has already been made clear that the total export of foodgrains from India during 1942–43 was 370,000 tons representing a steady decrease from the 1937–38 figure of over 900,000 tons. Since the beginning of 1943 the monthly export figures from India have been as follows:—

| 1943. | Wheat. TONS. | Rice. TONS. | Total. TONS. |
|---|---|---|---|
| January .. .. | 140 | 13,830 | 13,970 |
| February .. .. | 166 | 19,058 | 19,224 |
| March .. .. | 6 | 12,612 | 12,618 |
| April .. .. | 33 | 7,819 | 7,852 |
| May .. .. | 216 | 5,479 | 5,695 |
| June .. .. | 20,321 | 10,166 | 30,487 |
| July .. .. | 283 | 2,008 | 2,291 |
| Total .. | 21,165 | 70,972 | 92,137 |

The destinations have been Ceylon, the Persian Gulf or African ports and islands where there are Indian communities. Over the same period total exports of rice by sea and by rail from Bengal have been less than 7,000 tons of which exports outside India were less than 3,000 tons—mostly in January. Against this there were imports into Bengal of 70,000 tons, representing net imports of 63,000 tons.

The export of foodstuffs to any place outside India without a licence is prohibited by a Notification under rule 84 of the Defence of India Rules. In respect of foodgrains, sugar, spices, fodder and bran, licences are issued by Export Trade Controllers at the ports strictly in accordance with the instructions conveyed to them by the Food department in the light of the food situation in the country which is continually under review. Since July 1943, the export of foodgrains, except a very small quantity of pulses for Ceylon, which are not a controlled foodgrain, and the minimum requirements of Indian crews of merchant ships, is absolutely prohibited. These latter quantities are negligible and have amounted to a few hundred tons only during the last eight months.

It is sometimes alleged that the exports of foodgrains by the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation are subject to no control and have been very large. The Government of India are fully informed of all exports by the U.K.C.C. and all are subject to their licence. During the last 12 months no foodgrains of any kind have been exported by the Corporation.

Statements have also appeared that Australian wheat received earlier in the year has had to be replaced by India. There is no truth in these statements. Among the numerous shipments of wheat from Australia in the early part of this year to various destinations including India, three ship loads, originally intended for India, were subsequently ordered to be diverted elsewhere. But the cargoes made a fast voyage and had already arrived in India and been distributed. The Government of India agreed to re-export the equivalent quantities, in order to save the places for which they were destined, from serious shortage.

## R.A.F. HEROES OF BATTLE OF BRITAIN BROADCAST FROM MADRAS—(*Continued from page 8*)

### CRACK AT THE HUN

NOBLE: Yes. We had our crack at the Hun over Kent. Our chief task was to defend an important aerodrome on the outskirts of South London.

INTERVIEWER: And I bet you were kept fairly busy?

NOBLE: Yes. Our hours of business were long in those days. We only had twenty minutes for meals and we were on duty every day from dawn until half an hour after last light. And then you should have seen the boys shoot off for Town!—most of us spent the evenings of those hectic days in London. Some of us wore our best blues on the last sortie of the day if it were late, so we were ready, on landing, to get moving for London.

INTERVIEWER: Most combats were fought at over 20,000 feet and later, I believe, 30,000 feet, weren't they?

NOBLE: Yes, and it's ruddy cold and uncomfortable operating at those heights, I can tell you. We had no specially heated clothing and often we were up before breakfast on an empty stomach. The cold was as big an enemy as the Hun.

INTERVIEWER: I'd like you to say a word about your ground staffs.

NOBLE: I'm only too happy to do so. We shall always remember gratefully the grand work of the boys—and the girls, for the WAAFS did a wonderful job, too—on the ground. Although, often bombed and shot up, sometimes day in and day out, they gave us terrific support. We had complete confidence in our controllers, operations staffs and the men who served our kites, and they had confidence in us. We would have been useless without them. And we must not forget our bomber boys, either. They did vital work pounding the Hun airfields across the Channel.

INTERVIEWER: To come back to yourself. I believe you had the misfortune to become a casualty.

### MY WATERLOO

NOBLE: Yes. I met my Waterloo on September 1. I was shot down over Sevenoaks and had to bale out.

INTERVIEWER: Your face was badly burned, wasn't it?

NOBLE: Yes, my gravity tank blew up and I caught the force of the explosion in my face. I was blind for three weeks. They put me in hospital for nine months. Still, we had some very pretty nurses.

INTERVIEWER: Even hospitals have their attractions. I'm told the surgeons did a pretty skilful operation to get you back into service.

NOBLE: They did a wonderful job. I, and a large number of other pilots, owe an immeasurable debt of gratitude to those great London surgeons—Dr. Gillis and his assistant, Dr. Macindoe, who operated on me. They have done more for the fighter boys who fought in the Battle of Britain than anybody else in restoring severely burned and badly battered faces by their wonderful skill in skin-grafting and plastic surgery.

INTERVIEWER: I must say they did a marvellous job with you . . . Now, I see our time is up . . . so Squadron Leader Lacey . . .

LACEY: Cheerio, folks.

INTERVIEWER: And Flight Lieutenant Noble . . .

NOBLE: Goodnight, everybody.

INTERVIEWER: Thank you both. We wish you good luck and happy landings and an enjoyable stay in India. Goodnight.

## EXCEPTIONALLY FAVOURABLE CONDITIONS

The enslaved peoples of Europe are waiting for liberation and their gaze is fixed on the East—on the Soviet Union—because in the east development is being accelerated by blows of such crushing force that they shatter the might and power of Hitler's Germany in places very remote from the Soviet-German front. The capitulation of Italy is closely connected with events on the Soviet-German front. It is the direct result of defeats suffered by Hitler at the hands of the Red Army. The capitulation came about because Marshal Badoglio knew that he could not expect any help from Germany, whose forces were locked up on the Soviet front. Neither could he rely on his own armed forces. This happened after the landing of our Allies in Southern Italy. Hitler is unable to remove one single soldier from the Eastern Front. If he sends more troops there, he will have to remove them from some other part of Western Europe, further denuding his defences. This creates exceptionally favourable conditions for swift and determined blows by our Allies, both in Italy and in the West.

—*M. VIKTOROV.*

# HOW BRITAIN TACKLES HOARDING PROBLEM

HOARDERS, like the poor, would seem to be always with us. They exist almost everywhere in the world, though operating in different degrees in different countries. True, hoarding can find little incentive in a country like the U.S.S.R. whose economic structure has rubbed off the edge of individual greed, nor can it flourish in a country like Germany where there is not much to hoard. But in democratic countries like Britain and the U.S.A. where the old economic values are still potent and where there yet remain the good things that can be hoarded and black-marketed, hoarders do crop up and challenge the powers of the Government and the vigilance of the public.

That under the existing economic controls in Britain there can yet remain a scope for black-market activities should surprise most of us. With the Ministry of Food having bought up most of the essential foodstuffs and distributed them equitably throughout Britain, with rationing covering most of the purchasable articles, with the setting-up of price control that guarantees a maximum price for most of the essential wants of life, with retail shop transactions in fact having become as standardised as transactions in a post office, and with the rates of income-tax prohibiting extravagant purchasing, one would believe that there could be very little hoarding in Britain. But it appears that even as the best conducted families are not proof against accidents or actresses, the best controlled economic life in Britain, has not been proof against "blacketeers" and their patrons.

The blacketeer in Britain is known to act in two ways, first by evading the law through its loopholes and, secondly, by escaping the law by hiding underground. In a House of Commons debate on April 30, 1941 it was revealed that the Chairman of the North Midlands Food Prices Investigation Committee gave many "incredible instances" of profiteering in unrationed food, particularly tinned goods. About a year after, in March 1942, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, Major Lloyd George, reported to the House 40,000 black-market and other food prosecutions in Britain in the course of the year.

## PUBLIC VIGILANCE

The authorities in Britain have not been fighting alone. For they always had the most helpful co-operation of the public in the crusade against the profiteers. Public co-operation in this connexion has taken two forms. In the first place the people have acted as hounds aiding the Government's hunt for the culprits, and, secondly, they have submitted with full knowledge and consent to all the legal and executive measures of the State, which in other times they would not have countenanced. It may be said in this connexion that large-scale producers and distributors have wholeheartedly co-operated with the authorities with the result that the accounts and destinations of stocks are at any time verifiable, and the hoarder can accordingly be detected with comparative ease. To mention only one instance, the earliest in fact of such co-operation, all the British margarine producers have entered into an agreement with the Government to arrange and guarantee an even distribution of their products.

In short, the attitude of the British industrialist and wholesale distributor in the present war has been in happy contrast to that of his 19th Century forebear who is said to have frequently drunk a toast "to a bloody war and a bad harvest."

The work of keeping vigilance against the blacketeer, however, is largely that of ordinary folk. The richer people have a temptation to patronise the black-market, and some of them, in fact, derive a vicious excitement in seeking for things simply because they are contraband. In order to prevent these costly cravings of the few from being exploited by enterprising individualists, a number of private vigilance committees have been set up to investigate cases of profiteering and report them to the police. This work has also been taken up by that network of Citizen Advice Bureaus which are very popular throughout Great Britain under the name of "Street Corner Encyclopædias."

Besides these non-official bodies, every locality has an official price regulation sub-committee on which both consumers and traders are represented. These members are drawn from the public on the principle enunciated by Lord Woolton: "We believe, as far as possible, in letting people run their own shows."

Incidentally it may be mentioned that the Press of Britain has without a single exception supported Government and advised it about the anti-hoarding measures to be taken. The papers used, in fact, every kind of tactic in their campaign on the food front. The *Daily Herald's* "Lick the Plate Clean" crusade is a case in point.

## RECRUITMENT AND THE WAR EFFORT—(*Continued from page* 7)

I shall now give you some details about selection for King's Commission. There are three branches in this, viz., the Royal Indian Navy, the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force. Printed forms of applications are always available with the District Magistrate, or the Area Commander, or the Provincial Selection Board.

These forms are filled up and submitted to the Collector of the district in the first instance. If the candidate is in Government service, the application is submitted by the head of his department straight to the Provincial Selection Board.

Candidates in Indian States Government employ must obtain the consent of the State authorities before applying. They will be interviewed by the local Military Commanders.

Applications of candidates accepted by the District Recruitment Committee and the Collector or the head of a department are submitted to the Provincial Selection Board who invite candidates for interview. The papers of candidates accepted by the Provincial Selection Board are then submitted to the final Fifth General Headquarters (G.H.Q.) Selection Board, Bangalore, and when accepted there, the candidates are detailed to the Air, Navy or the Officers' Training School. Qualification is a good general knowledge.

## PRE-CADET TRAINING

When a candidate is found fit by the Provincial Selection Board but is deficient in general knowledge or physique, he is sent to the Pre-Cadet Training School, Adyar, for a three months' free training. This school was started at the instance of the Madras Recruitment Sub-Committee and is located in a beautiful bungalow in Adyar.

The school can boast of a very popular and able Principal and a staff of competent teachers. The boys do by their systematic life and exercise in the school, considerably improve their general knowledge and also improve in physique considerably. The Pre-cadet that is passed by the No. 5 Selection Board is much more than the boys going direct. The school accommodated 50 students first which was subsequently raised to 70 and it can admit 120 for the next January session.

When the Madras recruitment for King's Commissions was started, it started with a Recruitment Committee of three members. The number that appeared then was on the average 10 to 15 a month and often much less. A Selection Board with four members and a Chairman was appointed in December 1941 with power to select. Meanwhile these selections for King's Commissions became better known to the people and the response grew more satisfactory. We have now from 100 to 120 candidates a month. The Board sits usually two times a month and when there are more applications to deal with, it sits three times and four times.

The quality of selection has improved considerably owing to the introduction of an intelligence test and test by the psychiatrists. The percentage of approved candidates has fallen from 70 to 50, but it is hoped that better type of candidates might appear and the percentage might go up.

## WANTED MORE PILOTS

I must add a word specially in respect of air. To win the war and to maintain the success subsequently we want more aircraft and more pilots. A considerable number of pilots are being trained in this country and any of you who have the necessary qualification can undergo this training. To be a pilot in an Air Force Squadron is not very easy, although people might think otherwise. Training for this job takes the best part of a year of hard work. He has to fly night or day. He has to learn about the construction of aeroplanes and must learn signalling, both sound and visual. He must learn to use wireless instruments. Matters connected with weapons have to be learnt, machinegun and bombs are his principal weapons. Our young men, I have no doubt, will readily take to these and become proficient. You may ask what will happen afterwards to those young men who have been given commissions for the duration of the war. The Air Force in India will have to be very much stronger in the future. There will be vacancies for them in the Indian Air Force. There will also be many openings in civil aviation and those who wish to make this their profession will certainly find themselves much ahead of those who have yet to be trained for the various activities in the air. I appeal to you therefore to take up air service and do your bit in the present war.

—*From a talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, on Monday, September 20.*

*A group of 16-year old German soldiers taken prisoners in the Kuban Valley. Heavy losses sustained by the Germans have apparently necessitated the call-up of old men and adolescents.*

# GERMANY ACCEPTS DEFEAT IN U-BOAT WAR

*By* A. J. McWHINNIE

I fully expected some indications from Germany that there has been a shake-up inside the German Admiralty. When the German High Command authorized their propagandists to announce the August figures indicating that German aircraft had sunk three times more Allied shipping than could be claimed by U-boats, the announcement was as good as a charge of failure hurled at Admiral Karl Doenitz, Hitler's Naval Commander-in-Chief.

The German High Command knew in December that U-boats were failing. In January, Admiral Karl Doenitz, 52 years old, Germany's greatest U-boat expert, was appointed supreme head of the whole German Navy.

## GERMAN FLEET BETTER OFF IN HARBOUR

Doenitz started denuding Germany's idle surface ships of some of their best men deciding that the ships were better off in the safety of their Norwegian fjords and told Hitler that U-boats would prove able to cope with any major Allied moves on the sea. That the Luftwaffe has had to fly to the rescue of U-boats, despite overwhelming air obligations ashore, is an open confession from Berlin that U-boats can no longer justify the description of " Hitler's prime weapon " and faith in U-boats is down to its lowest point. Whether Doenitz himself would be involved in such a shake-up is more doubtful for his removal would be a terrible blow to the prestige of the U-boat fleet.

Nevertheless, his countrymen will hardly have forgotten that as recently as the spring, he said: " Britain can only be beaten at sea "; yet he has contributed nothing towards that beating. It would be unwise for any one to believe because the recent German sinking claims have been widely exaggerated that the Luftwaffe cannot achieve some successes out on the oceans. I anticipate greater activity by long-range ocean aircraft against Allied shipping.

## BRITAIN'S LONG-TERM PLANNING

Britain, when her back was towards the wall, was making two-fold plans for beating back German invaders on the one hand and for a big ultimate offensive against Germany on the other. A very clear illustration of this long-term plan lay tucked away in a recent speech by Mr. A. V. Alexander, Britain's First Lord of the Admiralty. Disclosing the warships which played so triumphant a part in the Sicilian victory, he named three monitors. One was the *Erebus*, fine old bombarding veteran of the last war. The other two were H.M.S. *Roberts* and H.M.S. *Abercrombie*. Neither of those two ships is named in any naval reference book. Until now they have been on the secret list. They were planned and laid down during Britain's darkest days of 1940. At the very moment Britain was expecting to be invaded by Hitler's forces, only 20 miles away, Britain was building ships specifically designed for bombarding Hitler's Europe many months ahead. That is the special job of monitors—shallow draught ships with 15-inch guns, which in aggressive operations against the enemy become floating forts. Britain, in other words, was preparing to attack the coasts of Axis Europe at a time when Britain herself was being blasted and battered by the Germans.

I was on board H.M.S. *Roberts* when she was on the secret list, being prepared for her adventures in the Mediterranean. I talked to the men who had brought back the defeated army from Dunkirk in 1940. I talked to the men transferred to the monitor from destroyers and corvettes, men I had known when Britain was feeling the full force of the U-boat menace. They grinned with eager anticipations; they told me: " This is the kind of ship where you have a good chance of getting your revenge. You wait a long time. But when the time comes, there is satisfaction in knowing the power and accuracy behind the big guns we carry for pummelling the enemy."

The new monitors started at Sicily on their pummelling operations. More will be heard of them. Britain has other types of specifically aggressive ships, planned, laid down and built during the days when only the far-sighted could imagine the Axis advance being turned into retreats.

The Wren class sloops, which have just figured in the stirring story of smashing up U-boats actually in the Bay of Biscay—Hitler's front garden—were conceived when Britain was very much on the defensive.

## WORK OF THE KILLER GROUPS

These sloops, bigger than corvettes and frigates, smaller but with greater endurance than big destroyers, are an integral part of the British naval " Killer Groups ", which fight U-boats before U-boats can get a chance to strike at Allied convoys. These naval " Killer Groups " working in the closest collaboration with Allied long-range anti-submarine aircraft, have perfected a technique for seeking out and destroying U-boats as they cross the Bay of Biscay to and from their bases.

The latest Admiralty and Air Ministry communique describes the destruction of seven U-boats in a single series of attacks. Such actions have played a big part in dispersing U-boats from all important North Atlantic trade routes, forcing them to operate in more distant waters where the targets offered are fewer.

Again, time is against Germany. There were many convoys to be potted at off the African coast and the Cape a year ago. But much has happened since then.

# LIFE IN THE VATICAN STATE

*A Reuter message, dated September 19, quoting a Stockholm despatch says that His Holiness the Pope is virtually a prisoner isolated by German troops. It is reported that the Germans have taken over the "protection" of the Vatican State. This article which has been condensed from the original published in* Pester Lloyd, *Budapest, gives our readers some idea of life in the Papal State in normal times.*

THE State of Vatican City has an area of only 108;7 acres, or a little more than one-sixth of a square mile. Although millions of worshippers, pilgrims and visitors enter St. Peter's and the Vatican Museum each year, the population of the little State numbers only a little over a thousand. But in addition to these, hundreds of workmen, clerks and officials stream into Vatican City every week day to perform their respective duties. The workmen are engaged in constructing new buildings, or in repairing the older ones. The clerks and officials are part of the vast administrative machinery of the Holy See.

Most of the officials come from peasant stock. They work in various departments, the so-called *dipendenza*, but all are under the supervision of one man who bears the title of *Governatore* and who is armed with plenipotentiary authority by the Holy Father. His orders are law. He is entrusted with the maintenance of order, the protection of persons and property, the execution of social measures, and he is responsible for the proper conduct of the public within the Vatican City.

## FEW CRIMINAL OFFENCES

The *Governatore* may order the arrest of criminals and it is in his name that sentences are imposed. As might be expected, criminal offences are rarely committed within the Vatican State; there are, at the most, one or two petty thefts annually, and the culprits are punished by expulsion. Where the offender is a citizen of the Papal State and the crime is of a serious nature, he is deprived of his citizenship and refused permission to work in the Vatican. The most severe punishment is confinement, or *incarcerazione*, up to three months. As there is no jail, this is served in a part of the barracks of the Swiss Guards that is reserved for the purpose. But even prisoners have permission to take a walk in one of the gardens twice daily.

Since the Vatican is unable to pay high salaries to its employees, its working hours are considerably less than is customary in Italy. There is always a large number of applications or the few jobs that become available. Some employees do not live within the Papal State and have to cross the *frontiera* four times daily, as they are given a three-hour period in which to go to their homes for lunch.

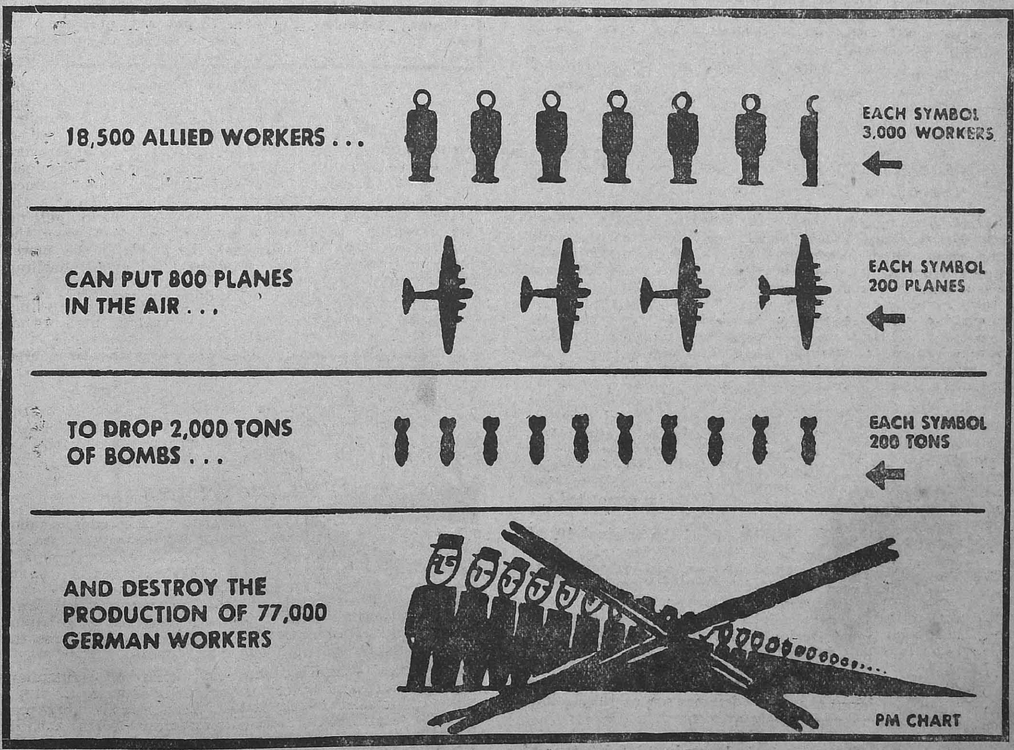
## DURING ROYAL VISITS

The *Governatore* himself is not required to live in the Vatican, but if he lives outside, a completely furnished apartment is, nevertheless, always at his disposal. He is obliged to stay in his official apartment only when members of a Ruling House pay a visit to His Holiness. The King, or his relatives, who are guests of the Pope are accommodated on the first floor of the *Governatore's* palace, which contains two entirely separate guest apartments. One is for the visiting King, the other one for his Queen, because Vatican tradition forbids couples to live together during the period of their visit. One of the most beautiful pieces of art in the King's apartment is a dinner service for 24, made out of hammered gold which may be used only by a Catholic Ruler.

Although employees of the Papal State are treated with great kindness and consideration, the strictest order and punctuality are expected from them in return. When the *Governatore* arrives in the morning, for example, every member of the Vatican staff, and every employee must be in his place.

The *Governatore's* office registers births, deaths and marriages occurring within the little State and keeps records of the work in the various agencies and of changes among the inhabitants. It is the *Governatore's* office which grants citizenship, issues drivers' licences, gives permission for an extended stay in the city, fixes food prices and accepts or rejects building plans. Besides, it keeps a careful record of all ordinary and extraordinary expenditures and supervises all public works which are undertaken within the Vatican State.

## IN ONE MONTH . . .




The above chart shows the expenditure of Allied labour to knock out more than four times as much Nazi productivity.

# ITALY'S RESOURCES

ITALY'S principal armament centres are Genoa and Milan in the north and Terni in Central Italy. In Genoa are the Ansaldo establishments, specializing in naval guns. At La Spezia, Turin and Naples are the Royal Arsenals, and at Brescia the National Arms Factory. At Fiume the former Whitehead works specialize in torpedoes and torpedo tubes.

Tanks are produced especially in Genoa by Ansaldo and in Turin by Fiat.

Milan and Turin are the main centres of the aircraft industry. They are also the principal centres for aero-engines.

Locomotives are built especially in Milan and Genoa. Railway material is also produced by firms in Turin and Naples. There are repair shops at Turin, Genoa and La Spezia—all for electric locomotives.

The most important shipbuilding yards are at Genoa, Sestri Levante and Pietra Ligure. There are also shipyards at La Spezia, Trieste, Taranto and Naples. La Spezia is the leading naval dockyard and is specially important for submarines, which are also built at Taranto.

Before the war, iron ore production was 1,000,000 tons, with 500,000 tons iron content, to which was added a production of 900,000 tons of pyrites and an import of 400,000 tons of iron ore and pyrites. Production of pig iron was 800,000 tons, to which was added an import of 70,000 tons. This, together with an import of 600,000 tons scrap iron and steel used in Martin Siemens furnaces, and the national production of scrap was the basis of an output of just over 2,000,000 tons of steel before the war.

In each of the two years preceding Italy's entry into the war, Italian smelters produced 34,000 tons of zinc. Production of lead in 1938 was 48,000 tons.

Production of alumina was 92,000 tons in 1938, of aluminium 26,000 tons. The capacity of aluminium plants was reported to have risen in 1942 to 60,000 tons.

Italy has an export surplus of zinc ores but before the war did not cover its lead requirements. Also before the war Italy came next to France and Hungary among European producers of bauxite, with an output of 484,000 tons in 1939. With a production of only 1,000 tons of metallic copper Italy had to import 77,000 tons of copper and copper alloys. There is a small production of nickel and cobalt ores in Sardinia. Italy is the world's leading producer of mercury—with 43 per cent of the total in 1939.

Italy is second only to the United States as a producer of natural sulphur; three-quarters of the production is derived from Sicily.

There was a net import of magnesium before the war, but production in 1942 was expected to exceed requirements. The country lacks in tin and chrome. Italy is also poor in coal. It has, however, the largest hydro-electric production in Europe.

### AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Italy is by far the largest rice producer in Europe and before the war exported one-sixth to one-fifth of its crop. Before the war she was the second largest wheat producer in Europe, after France. Maize is the principal fodder cereal of Italy, but a considerable part of the crop is also used, in the North, for human consumption and it is also a source of industrial alcohol. Average production in 1936–40 was 30,800,000 quintals. A large crop—34,000,000 quintals—was obtained in 1940, only 26,000,000 in the following year.

Before the war, Italy was surpassed only by the Netherlands as an exporter of potatoes, and rivalled only by the United States as a producer of lemons. Only Spain exceeded Italy in the production of oranges. Italy is the world's largest producer of almonds.

### A SUMMARY OF ITALIAN RESOURCES

*Italy's Food and Raw Materials Balance*

*Surpluses.*—Wine, Rice, Potatoes, Citrus, Tobacco, Silk, Hemp, Bauxite, Zinc, Mercury, Sulphur, Salt, Borates, Fluor-spar and Asbestos.

*Balances.*—Wheat, Olive oil, Sugar and Magnesium.

*Deficits.*—Maize and other food, Meat, Fish, Vegetal oils other than olive oil, Cotton, Wool, Cellulose, Coal, Mineral oil, Iron, Chrome, Tungsten, Molybdenum Manganese, Antimony, Nickel, Lead, Copper, Tin, Natural phosphates, Rubber and Timber.

# ITALIAN FLEET

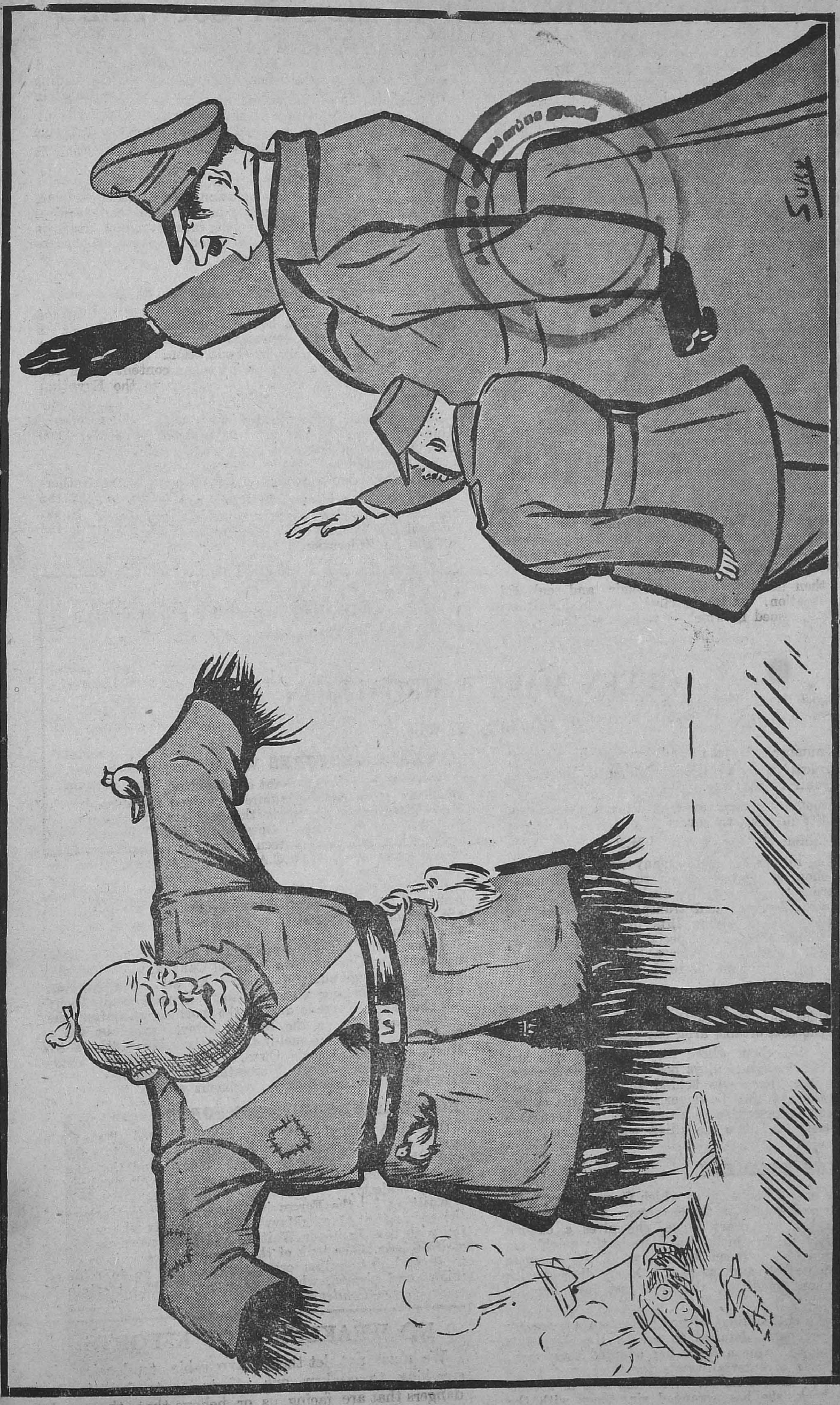
THE Italian fleet, though its losses since Italy's entry into the war amount at least to 10 cruisers, 48 torpedo-boats and destroyers ,and 35 smaller men-of-war apart from submarines, in which class losses have also been heavy, is still a powerful and substantial factor.

Two of the six battlships in service in June 1940—the *Littorio* and the *Cavour*—were beached after damage inflicted on them by the Fleet Air Arm in its attack at Taranto in November 1942. The *Littoria*, one of the most powerful battleships afloat, was evidently back in service, for she was later encountered at sea. It seems probable that repairs to the *Cavour*, an old ship reconstructed just before the war, have also been completed. The enemy recently announced that two newer sister ships of the *Littorio*—*Rome* and *Impero*—were in service. This is not impossible, though it seems unlikely that more than one of them can yet have been completed.

At most nine cruisers remain out of the original 19, of which perhaps two may be of the 10,000-ton, eight inch gun type. Not all the 48 destroyers and torpedo-boats sunk can be deducted from the 104 modern craft of those classes with which Italy entered the war. Some of them, veterans of the last war, might still have been in service for subsidiary naval duties, and some might have been added to the fleet in the past three years.

In the worldwide speculation about what would happen to Italian warships, the great importance of the Italian mercantile marine was largely overlooked.

When the war began, Italy had nearly 3,500,000 tons of merchant shipping. Allied sea and air power has, however, whittled down that tonnage until, to-day, it is doubtful whether Italy has more than 1,000,000 tons of shipping left. Included in this estimate is 835,000 tons of Vichy shipping acquired by Italy when Hitler marched into the South of France. At the time this Vichy shipping was a great windfall for the Axis. The increased sinkings by the United Nations soon overtook and exceeded that windfall.



HAIL "SAW-DUST CAESAR"!

—Specially drawn for the *Madras War Review*.

# ARAB FEDERATION: INTEREST IN MID-EAST COUNTRIES

ARAB Federation, the idea of some kind of a union of Arab countries, is at present a subject of, as *The Times*, London, wrote recently "burning interest" to the leaders and people of the Middle East.

Few important speeches are made by politicians in the Middle East which do not contain references to the subject and there are few intellectuals in the countries which would be concerned in any such Federation who do not hold decided views upon the matter.

The first official discussions held specifically on Federation took place towards the end of July, when Nouri el-Said Pasha, the Premier of Iraq, came to Egypt to talk about the subject with Nahas Pasha, Premier of Egypt.

On his way to Egypt, the Iraqi Premier had gathered the views of a number of Arab leaders in the countries through which he passed on his journey.

The two premiers had six talks together in Alexandria. During these discussions it was decided that the point of view of Saudi Arabia should be sought and accordingly the Egyptian Minister in Baghdad and the Hedjaz, who was on leave in Egypt, was called in. A former Egyptian Minister to Iraq and the Hedjaz was also consulted.

In an interview at this stage, the Iraqi Premier said that Nahas Pasha would later communicate with the heads of other Arab Governments and when this was done, representatives of those Governments would be invited to confer in Cairo.

"We must be more interested in the fundamentals than in the final shape of the Federation," he said. "If we must give it a name at this stage, we can call it co-operation. After the conference has met to discuss the whole matter, perhaps another name will be found."

The talks then dealt with the economic and cultural aspects of Federation. At the conclusion of the discussions a statement was issued in which it was stated that Nahas Pasha would resume his talks with other Arab leaders and that a congress would be held at which these nations would be able to discuss their demands.

Interviewed in Jerusalem on his way back to Iraq after the talks, Nouri el-Said said that although there was still much to be done, it was hoped that a conference between all the Arab Governments might be held during the present year.

Meanwhile considerable progress has been made by the Iraqi-Egyptian Cultural Co-operation Bureau which, during a series of talks held in Egypt, has come to various decisions regarding such matters as the interchange of teachers and students, and the standardization of school syllabuses, which cannot but have a bearing upon the subject of Federation in general.

Nahas Pasha, in his latest statement on Federation, said that immediately after he had concluded his talks with Nouri el-Said Pasha, he had written to King Ibn Saud begging him to send a representative to Egypt to inform him of his point of view on Federation. The King had replied that for the present he was content with the detailed letter which he had sent earlier to the Egyptian Premier.

Nahas Pasha communicated also with Imam Yehia, King of Yemen, but had not yet received any reply. The Emir Abdullah of Transjordan, in answer to Nahas Pasha's letter, delegated his Premier, Tewfik Abou el-Hoda Pasha, to visit Egypt and discuss the matter with Nahas Pasha.

There is great interest in Syria concerning Federation and the Syrian press sees the country's return to a constitutional life as marking a step towards her participation in talks on Federation.

Nahas Pasha and the Premier of Transjordan have held their first talk following which a communiqué was issued which described it as having taken place in an atmosphere of sincere cordiality and a mutual desire to attain the unity of the Arab nations.

# QUEEN MARY'S MEDALLION

*By* LOUIS L. V. WULFF

A growing number of men—and women—in Britain's three Services have a little medallion as their most cherished souvenir of the war.

It is a momento of their meeting with a Queen who gave them a lift in her own car.

On the medallion are the letters "M.R."

This charming idea is one of the many ways Queen Mary has found of showing her feelings for the Service men and women who are doing so much for their country. Months back when petrol shortage and transport difficulties first popularized the idea of giving lifts in private cars to Service folk, Queen Mary gave special instructions to her chauffeur always to stop and offer a lift to any man or woman in uniform he saw on the road, without waiting for them to signal.

Airmen, W.A.A.Fos, soldiers, A.T.S. girls and sailors have all had rides since then in Her Majesty's car, sitting beside her in the comfortable armchair seats.

Queen Mary asks them where they are from and how they like the Service, and enjoys hearing them talk about the home life they have left behind them. At the end of the drive, the grateful passenger expressing his or her thanks has been surprised to receive one of the keepsakes from the Queen, the little medallion they treasure ever afterwards.

## ENTERTAINS SOLDIERS

That is only one of the ways in which Queen Mary helps the lot of men and women in the Services. At the country house that is her temporary home, she gives a cinema show every fortnight, to which all soldiers in the neighbourhood are invited free. Queen Mary pays all the expenses out of her own pocket, and, as it is a lonely district with few entertainment facilities, the men just love her for doing it.

Billeted in the outbuildings of her house are a company of a famous regiment, detailed to act as Her Majesty's own wartime guard. Queen Mary has adopted these men, organizes all sorts of entertainments for them, and takes a real interest in their comfort. With the help of a community song book, she has arranged sing-songs with the troops, joining vigorously in the choruses herself. Last Christmas time, the Queen ran a "lucky dip" bran-tub for the men, and they were delighted to find as gifts such useful articles as razor blades, shaving brushes and sticks of soap.

## ATTENDS LECTURES WITH TROOPS

Queen Mary makes a point of attending, with the troops, the lectures on current affairs organized for them by the War Office, and she reads the booklets on these topics prepared for the troops. Outside the house there is a big wooden hut, where a canteen is run for the soldiers under the auspices of the Y.M.C.A., which the Queen visits frequently.

Besides these regulars, stray units, searchlight detachments of the R.A., bomb disposal squads of the R.E., who are stationed temporarily nearby, all receive visits from the Queen.

Queen Mary is Colonel-in-Chief of one famous Canadian regiment, the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, and when they arrived in England, she motored up and spent the day with them, lunching with the officers in mess, and inspecting the men on parade during the morning and afternoon.

Four regiments in the British Army, too, claim Queen Mary as their Colonel-in-Chief—the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own), the Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey), the Worcestershire Yeomanry and the Oxfordshire Yeomanry new regiment of the R.A.

## ROYAL HANDS KNIT COMFORTS

Officers in each of these regiments, scattered all over the vast world battlefield, regularly receive knitted comforts and other gifts from their Royal Colonel, and the men of the regiments, too, have socks, scarves and gloves, knitted by Her Majesty.

Knitting for the Forces is, indeed, a regular feature of the evenings at Queen Mary's home. Guests who are staying with her, Ladies-in-Waiting and other members of her staff all help. The bulk of the garments they knit are sent to central distribution organizations, and go to soldiers, sailors and airmen, who never guess the Royal origin of their gifts.—*(Condensed from an article.)*

# NO WEAKENING OF EFFORTS.

We must not let these favourable tendencies do anything to weaken our efforts or to belittle the dangers that are facing us or believe that the war is coming to an end. On the contrary we must expect that the terrible foe whom we are so heavily smiting, will make frenzied efforts to retaliate.

—MR. CHURCHILL *in his Survey of War on September 21.*

# CITY DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA AND BRITAIN

*By* B. S. TOWNROE, A.R.I.B.A.

*Problems of post-war replanning and rebuilding are discussed in this talk given recently before the India Society, London.*

ONE inevitable result of the war will be rebuilding in at least 30 countries. Before the end comes, more countries may have been subjected to destruction from the air, and will have to carry out in due course reconstruction of bombed cities on a scale never imagined in world history.

Our experience of devastation on such a scale is very limited. After the Great Fire of London in 1666 it took more than ten years to redevelop and rebuild 500 acres of City property. After 1919, the French courageously set to work to rebuild 594,000 shelled houses and 20,000 ruined factories, and 20 years later the task was still far from completion. The unprecedented shattering of towns and villages in Europe, Africa and Asia in the present war calls for hard thinking so as to avoid the dangers of "quick cure-all" schemes, and to plan wisely for the future rebuilding.

Planning in all its phases is now the cry of many of those who hope and pray for a better world after the war. Planning has been described by Sir Gwilym Gibbon as being "regarded in many quarters as a popular panacea for all manner of ills, almost like some patent medicine." Here the question of physical planning, a practical and business issue, alone is dealt with.

## BURIED CITIES OF INDUS VALLEY

It is well in these days, when so many of our writers and oraters seem to imagine that a world war is a short cut to Utopia, to remember that excavations in India, Assyria, Babylon, Egypt and Crete, show that central planning is no 20th-Century discovery. Buried cities of the Indus Valley, at least 5,000 years old, when excavated, showed they were well planned and drained. Every large house had a bathroom. The old Vedic treaties afford striking proof of the knowledge and common sense of the early peoples of India in regulating their building development and wisdom in their municipal administration. The Græco-Roman period is another fruitful field of study of city development.

In the post-Roman period Europe, ravaged by wars and pestilences, devastated and derelict as she will be again when the tide of the present German occupation recedes, had to face reconstruction. This was a slow job then, and it will undoubtedly be a long and painful process in the future. Our generation, for example, will certainly not see the completion of the rebuilding of the City of London.

Those who regard city planning as a 20th-Century remedy for the ills of the world will find many examples of excellent city planning in Europe, Asia and America carried out between the 15th and 19th centuries. Each contains much of interest to the town-planner.

The steam age meant the rapid increase of industrial towns and little attention was paid to the art of town-planning and building. The motor-car and the lorry have brought about another revolution, and today we are at the beginning of the Air Age. This will influence India and the East as much as England and the West.

It is not proposed to enter into the technicalities of town-planning, which has a jargon all its own or to plunge too deeply into controversy over the recommendations of the three reports now being considered in Great Britain, the Barlow, Scott and Uthwatt reports. There are, however, certain inferences to be drawn from a study of England and India.

## PROGRESS IN INDIA

In India, the Federated Malay States and Singapore, town-planning was started as a means of dealing with insanitary and overcrowded areas. In Hyderabad and other progressive centres "Improvement" and "Development" Trusts were set up, financed by Government subsidies or loans and often aided by the grant of Government land. The plan for New Delhi, laid out on a virgin site, was criticized by professional town-planners on the grounds that its authors, John Brodie, Sir Edwyn Lutyens and Captain George Swinton (the members of the original committee), failed to use the accumulated knowledge, and may be judged not as a city, but as a national monument. We have much to learn from business like handling of land in the planning of Calcutta.

Special Acts for the planning of Bombay and Madras were passed in 1915 and 1920, respectively. India and Burma owe a debt to Mr. H. V. Lanchester for his work in Madras in 1915, in the United Provinces in 1918, in Burma in 1922. He was responsible for town-planning schemes in Delhi, Madras, Gwalior, Lucknow, Rangoon and Zanzibar. He has pointed out some of the particular problems in India: the necessity to give close attention to caste groups, not only in respect of occupational centres and in rehousing after slum clearances; the distaste of the family for separation, which produces overcrowding; and the necessity not to violate temples, mosques and graves. The preservation of religious buildings, however much in ruins, demands much ingenuity in planning, but at any rate an Indian city, however squalid and insanitary it may be in parts, has none of the dreary and depressing growth of many English industrial areas.

According to an American comparison dwelling houses represent 22 per cent of the total national wealth in Germany, 21 per cent in Holland, 16.5 per cent in the United States of America and Great Britain, 8 per cent in Canada and 7 per cent in India.

## THE FUTURE

In the war-scarred cities of today our city rulers can surely learn from the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs and Aldermen of the 1660's not to despair even in the blackest days of war, to cut red tape and regulations to the minimum, and to give carefully chosen men the maximum freedom and discretion.

We can also learn much from the experiences of reconstruction after the last war, when the public were bamboozled by visions of a paradise on earth and later found themselves submerged in a morass of unemployment. Let us cultivate, in the words of one who remembers the illusions of 1919, a "Spartan sense of realities." There will be a shortage all over the world of manpower and materials at a time when the demand for replanning and rebuilding will be widespread and enormous. In England and Wales alone it is estimated that there is an existing lack of 4,000,000 homes.

The carrying out of replanning schemes will be a long job. Limited means, men, and materials will make it impossible to translate the best plans from paper to reality. It is expected, for example, that the rebuilding of Coventry will take at least 50 years.

Further replanning and rebuilding are only part of the social services for which there will be urgent claims on public funds; agriculture, education, health, insurance—each will be competitors for the taxpayers' money. For example, in England legislation is to be introduced to confer on local authorities wide and simple powers for the compulsory acquisition of land. In theory this is excellent, but experience of applying such powers over the last century shows how tricky it is "recklessly to play skittles with land values," and always the question arises: Who will pay the inevitable compensation—the taxpayer or the ratepayer? Here again the problems are very different in old countries like India and England as compared with the largely undeveloped countries of the New World.

Half a century is a short span in planning. When we think of the great urban civilization in the Indus Valley of 5,000 years ago, we gain humility in facing the issues of to-day. From India we can learn both patience and wisdom in dealing with the redevelopment of our bombed cities in Europe and North Africa and the Far East in the years to come.

# AN EISENHOWER STORY

Even as a young officer in Panama, General Eisenhower was preparing himself for future events. One hot afternoon he remarked to a friend: "It's quiet here now, and I've been thinking I should go into hospital to have my appendix out."

"Has it been bothering you?" the friend asked.

"Oh, no," Eisenhower replied. "But it might rear up and put me out of action some time when things aren't so quiet."—*The Saturday Evening Post.*

# THIS WEEK—IN RETROSPECT!

*By "CHRONICLER"*

*[Bryansk, Novorossisk, Pavlograd, Krassnograd, Romney, and speedy drive towards Smolensk and Kiev—this sums up the reverberating success of the Soviet Army this week against Germans. Lae in the South-west Pacific and Salerno in Italy are additional feathers in the Allied Crown.]*

It was on September 17, 1939, that Russia invaded Poland, a tragedy in otherwise friendly relationship, to which reference has been already made in the last issue of the MADRAS WAR REVIEW. The Polish army collapsed without much delay. The Germans issued a 12-hour ultimatum to Warsaw. On the 18th, the Russian and the German armies met at Brest-Litovsk and the Polish Government entered Rumania. On the 22nd the partition of Poland was announced by Germany and Russia. Warsaw still resisted, but capitulated in the end on the 27th September. On the 28th, the fortress of Modlin surrendered. On the following day the German Foreign Office announced the completion of a treaty of "Frontier and friendship" signed at Brest-Litovsk between the German and Russian Commanders. Thus in less than five weeks and with no more than fifteen days of serious engagement Germany had completed the speediest campaign in military history.

## 1940

This week in 1940, on the 23rd September, General de Gaulle arrived off Dakar accompanied by a British Naval Squadron. It was primarily a Free French enterprise in which British help was sought and proferred and which could have been pushed to a cleaner decision but for certain personal matters which naturally intervened. General de Gaulle rightly believed that the majority of Frenchmen in Dakar was favourable to the Free French movement; but the situation in Dakar suddenly changed into one of hostility with the arrival there of three French cruisers and three destroyers which carried with them a number of Vichy partisans who were sent to overawe the population, to grip the defences and to see to the efficient manning of the powerful shore batteries. The policy which the British Government had been pursuing towards the Vichy French warships was not to interfere with them unless they appeared to be proceeding to enemy-controlled ports. Obviously, however, while General de Gaulle's enterprise was proceeding it was specially important to prevent any of them reaching Dakar. By a series of accidents neither the First Sea Lord nor the Cabinet were informed of the approach of these ships to the Straits of Gibraltar until it was too late to stop them passing through. Orders were instantly given to stop them at Casablanca, or if that failed, to prevent them from entering Dakar. All these attempts failed; of the four French vessels concerned, two succeeded in regaining Dakar, while the other two were overtaken by British cruisers and were induced to return to Casablanca without any actual violence. The fighting which ensued between the shore batteries at Dakar, reinforced by the 16-inch guns of the damaged *Richlieu* and the British squadron was pretty stiff. Two Vichy submarines which attacked the fleet were sunk, two of the French destroyers were set on fire, one of the cruisers was heavily hit, and the *Richilieu*, herself suffered further damage. One British battleship and a large cruiser suffered damage requiring considerable attention.

It was an irony of fate that the five French Navy which Admiral Darlan shaped for so many years to fight in the common cause against German aggression should have proved to be the principal obstacle to the liberation of France and her Empire from the German yoke. It was a still stranger irony that what happened at Dakar was likely to lead to a declaration of war by the Vichy Government.

## 1941

During this week in September 1941 the battle for Leningrad continued with undiminished ferocity both on land and in the air. The Germans claimed to have tightened up their grip on the city, and it was even stated that, having penetrated the suburbs, they were attacking the inner ring of fortifications. In an order of the day Field-Marshal Leeb declared that the city must be taken within the next few days regardless of cost. The first fall of snow in the Leningrad area had been reported. At the other end of the front Marshal Budenny's forces were stubbornly opposing the German forces which had established a bridgehead on the east bank of the Lower Dnieper at Kremenchug.

British aid to Russia was being given in the air and on the sea. Several squadrons of the Royal Air Force had reached Russia complete with their ground organization, ammunition and supplies of aviation fuel. Off the Norwegian coast, on the German supply route to the Murmansk front, aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm had been attacking German shipping. A British Mission headed by Lord Beaverbrook, together with representatives of the United States reached Moscow on the 22nd September.

The German General Staff had been planning a big offensive along the whole southern sector from Kiev to the Black Sea, with the object of forcing the barrier of the Dnieper, attacking the Crimea by land, sea and air, pushing farther east to the Don Basin and reaching the Caucasus before winter. The German envelopment of Kiev and its evacuation by the Russian army on 21st September was one of the most startling events of this week. This was aimed at the industrial heart of the country whence flew the lifeblood of Russian resistance.

This was the Tank Week for Russia, commencing from 22nd September 1941. "To all workers in the tank factories," said Lord Beaverbrook, "the call is for the utmost. From now on, the tank factories of this country must supply not only the armies of Britain, but the needs of Russia whose soldiers to-day fight in the same shining cause. From Monday next, therefore, September 22, and for the space of seven days the work of your hands will be sent to the front lines defending Leningrad, Kiev and Odessa." The campaign for more tanks was a tremendous success, the workers in English factories setting themselves to the task not only with vigour but with actual emotion. While this was happening in England, Beaverbrook was conferring with Stalin in Moscow to find out how much Russia wanted in the shape of tanks. The most encouraging part of the conference in Kremlin was the admission from Stalin that this was a tank war. Beaverbrook wrote out the following telegram to his workers and despatched it: "Boys, oh boys, you have raised the roof and lifted the lid and beaten the band."

This week in 1941 Japan celebrated the tenth anniversary of the "Manchurian Incident." General Tojo, in the course of a broadcast to the nation, felt that the incident was "a heaven-sent signal for the dawn of an epoch in Eastern Asia." It seemed, on the same authority, that Japan "surpassed all other races in living in peace and in making moral principles her guide." How far there was substance in this claim may well be understood by a world that has seen, shortly after this celebration Japanese greed for land and conquest and the ruthless manner in which she can execute her nefarious plans. Her love for peace and moral principles led her into a camp the leaders of which sought world domination through the law of fist.

What exactly was the Manchurian Incident? Following the Russo-Japanese war of 1904–05 Japan took over and extended Russia's former rights of economic development in South Manchuria. Friction between the Japanese and Chinese authorities became aggravated after Chang Hsueh-liang, the Governor of Manchuria announced his allegiance to the Nationalist regime at Nanking. Matters came to a head on September 18, 1931, when Japanese troops, employing as a pretext the alleged explosion of a bomb on the South Manchurian Railway, occupied Mukden (city in Manchuria) and quickly extended their occupation to the whole of Manchuria.

## 1942

It was during this week in September that orders were sent by Stalin and the Russian High Command to every unit taking part in the defence of Stalingrad to engage Bock's troops in offensive action. In Stalingrad, we have been witnessing at this time, what this war has as yet scarcely seen, unless perhaps at Sabastopol, a resistance rivalling the majestic defence of Verdun, with this difference that instead of a ring of long prepared forts with a comparatively small town in the centre, here was a city containing the home of a quarter of a million people that held out and disputed each step of the enemy's advance. For Marshal Timoshenko there was no question of strategy but of stubborn resistance. Whatever may be the outcome, this heroic defence has thrown the German plan badly out of gear. Hand-to-hand fighting was continuing in the streets and squares; but the main battle was still being waged outside the confines of the city, and here the enemy had made no advance for several days.

At Voronesh the Russians, with a powerful weight of artillery, aided by a large force of aircraft, were smashing their way through the German fortifications and the enemy was hastily bringing up more troops to stem the Russian advance.

The Germans suffered a sharp reverse on the river Tarek in their thrust towards Grozony on the Caucasus front. On the North African front a great offensive started on the 23rd against Rommel's forces, more of which anon.

# WAR DIARY

## BRITAIN AND GERMANY

16TH SEP.—Targets in North-West Germany and in Berlin were attacked.

A small number of enemy aircraft raided parts of south-east England. Bombs were dropped at several places including London area. Damage was slight and casualties few.

17TH SEP.—Musquitos attacked objectives in Berlin.

18TH SEP.—To-day also targets in Berlin were attacked.

19TH SEP.—The Prime Minister Mr. Churchill arrived at London accompanied by Mrs. Churchill and Subaltern Mary Churchill.

20TH SEP.— Mr. Churchill presided at a Cabinet meeting.

21ST SEP.—The Prime Minister Mr. Churchill reviewed the war situation in the Commons.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Charles Kingsley Wood, died.

Royal Air Force raided North Germany.

22ND SEP.—The British Foreign Minister Mr. Antony Eden revealed in the House of Commons to-day the purpose of Rudolf Hess's arrival in Britain. Mr. Eden made a statement about Britain's relations with Spain.

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## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ATLANTIC

16TH SEP.—The United States Deputy Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Joseph T. McNarney, told the Senate Military Affairs Committee that an army of 77 lakhs men was the minimum force required for the tasks ahead.

17TH SEP.—President Roosevelt in a message to the Congress made a detailed survey of the war situation in all the theatres.

United States Secretary of Navy, Colonel Frank Knox, arrived in London.

18TH SEP.—Venue of the proposed Tripartite Conference of Foreign Ministers was not yet settled.

20TH SEP.—The House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee accepted an amendment to the Fulbright resolution giving Congress in effect final power to approve or reject any international arrangement to preserve peace.

A new army command covering the entire Central Pacific area at Hawaii was announced.

Details of one of America's most secret devices, an electronically controlled automatic pilot, were disclosed.

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## INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

16TH SEP.—Field Marshal Viscount Wavell, the Viceroy-designate, spoke at the Pilgrim Luncheon. He said, "I am sure all of you here realise that the war will not be over and that there can be no military or economic security for the East, for ourselves or for the world until Japan is as thoroughly defeated as Germany."

Jap communications in Shwebo, Monywa and other places in Burma were attacked. Several sampans were sunk or damaged. Chinese troops fought a skirmish with 200 Japanese in Naga Hills country of North Burma. Maymo and Mandalay were also bombed.

18TH SEP.—Japanese communications and installations in Prome, troops barracks near Henzeda, villages in Buthidaung were bombed by Royal Air Force planes. Railroad installations at Naba junction and at Bongyaung Joye were also hit.

19TH SEP.—Akyab and Taungup, an important communication centre, were bombed.

20TH SEP.—One enemy aircraft approached Colombo this morning but it withdrew.

21ST SEP.—Enemy buildings at Maungdaw were attacked by Allied planes.

22ND SEP.—Two trains north of Toungoo, water tower at Myingyam and river craft on Chindwin and Kaladan were hit by Royal Air Force fighters.

Japanese extract forced labour in Burma.

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## ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

16TH SEP.—Crisis of Salerno beach-head was overcome and the Fifth Army was on the offensive. Eighth Army reached Scalea and neared Sapri.

Marshal Ugo Cavellero, former Italian Chief of Staff, committed suicide.

Allies occupied Lero island in the Dodecanese and Samos in the Aegean.

17TH SEP.—Eighth Army joined up with the Fifth in Salerno area. Situation took a better turn for the Allies. Montecorvino was occupied. Allies were in complete control of three provinces in south Italy. General Alexander paid a visit to Salerno.

18TH SEP.—Field Marshal Kesserling began his retreat from Salerno. Naval forces took the islands of Procida, Ponza and Ischia which are near Naples. On the mainland Roccadaspde was occupied.

Allied troops landed on Rhodes island. Cos island was also occupied by Allies.

Mussolini in a broadcast to Italians narrated the story of his escape and attacked King Victor Emmanuel.

19TH SEP.—Allied advance in Salerno sector continued. Battipaglia, an important airfield and communications town and Altavilla were captured. Marshal Badoglio was reported to be in Allied held Italian territory.

Germans completely evacuated the strategic and second largest island Sardina in the Mediterranean.

20TH SEP.—The Fifth Army captured commanding heights in Lorrento Peninsula. Amalfi was occupied and the Eighth Army took Gwja.

All Italian railwaymen went on strike.

Marshal Badoglio in a message to the Italian people asked them to resist and knock out Germans if they wanted to exist.

Castelorizo island in the Dodecanese was captured by Allies.

21ST SEP.—Eboli was captured. American bombers attacked Venice and Pescara. Maleme and shipping off Scarpanto were also hit. Germans sacked Naples.

Western Corsica was occupied by French troops.

22ND SEP.—San Cipriano, Montecorvino, Rovella and Campagna were captured. Eighth Army occupied Potenza.

Badoglio in a broadcast outlined the policy of his Government.

Corsican patriots captured Sartene and Corte.

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## RUSSIA AND FINLAND

16TH SEP.—Black sea port Novorossisk, Novogrod-Seversky, Romny and Lozavaya were captured. Soviets massed troops for a drive against Smolensk. Soviet offensive gathered momentum on all fronts. Two hundred and twelve German divisions were fighting in Russia.

Bryansk fell into Nazi hands.

17TH SEP.—Bryansk and Rezhitya were recaptured. Germans were driven to defences in Desna. Verkhne-Tokman and Osipenko were also occupied. An attack south of Lake Ladoga was launched. Threat to Krasnograd increased.

18TH SEP.—Key rail junction Pavlograd east of Dnepropetrovsk and 230 localities were captured by Russians. Town of Priluki was surrounded. New battles flared up south-east of Smolensk. General Rokussovsky's forces were less than 45 miles from Kiev.

19TH SEP.—Many Nazi strong points like Yartsevo and Dukovsehchina in Smolensk front, Priluki, Lubni, Krasnograd and Romny in Kiev direction, Trubchevsk in Bryansk front were taken by Russian troops. Other important places captured include Morograd, Romadan, Amsovo, etc. About 350 localities were also occupied.

United States Ambassador Admiral William H. Standley left Moscow for Washington for consultation with President Roosevelt.

20TH SEP.—Russians captured Bolshaya-Tokmak and Grebenko railway junction. Three Russian armies advanced on Smolensk on an arc less than 30 miles from the city. New Soviet drive developed towards Dniepper rail centre of Kremenechug. Push towards Kiev was rapid.

The announcement of the formation of a "Union of German Officers" composed of prisoners of war in Russia and their appeal to German Commanders to overthrow Hitler were published in *Pravda*.

21ST SEP.—Soviet troops captured Sinelkovo and Chernigov on the Upper Desna. The Red Army reached a point 25 miles from Kiev.

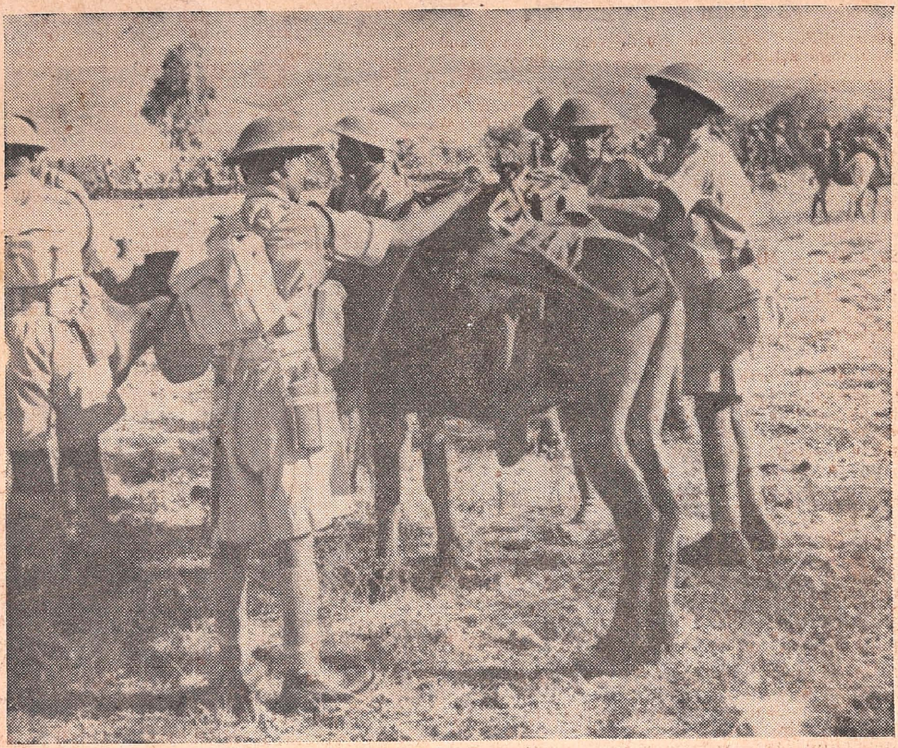
22ND SEP.—Anapa and several places were captured. Smolensk was attacked. Red Army reached very near Kiev. Russians reached Dniepper.

Mr. Eden stated in the House of Commons that the relation of Britain with Russia was one of closest collaboration.

M. Stalin appealed for more allied aid.

## MULE TRANSPORT IN MOUNTAIN WARFARE TRAINING.

*One of the principal features of mountain warfare is the fact that fighting takes place over ground which is completely impassable to motor transport. It is under such conditions that the normally much maligned mule comes into its own. These stout-hearted and sure-footed animals are doing invaluable work bringing up supplies and ammunition in mountainous country. Photo shows a mule loaded up with equipment to be taken up to the troops in the battle exercise area.*



### NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

16TH SEP.—German customs officials blockaded Switzerland from all sides.

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### VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

16TH SEP.—Enemy airfields and transport targets in Paris, Romilly, Merville and Bryas Sud and naval installations at Nantes were attacked by Allied planes.

Yugoslav patriot troops captured the Adriotic port of Spalato.

17TH SEP.—Marshalling yards at Modane, French frontier town near Mont Ceris tunnel and a viaduct near St. Raphael were bombed. Airfields and other objectives in France and low countries were bombed by fighter aircraft. Targets in Nantes, La Pallice, Gograc, La Rochelle, Beaumount Le Roger and Triequwille were also attacked. Armed vessels in the harbour of Le Havre were hit.

Bulgarians extended their occupation zone up to Albanian border.

18TH SEP.—Whirlwinds and mosquitos attacked railway targets in Britany.

Nazis heavily bombed Yugoslav towns of Split, Solin and Trogir. Innocent women and children were killed.

Twenty thousand German troops left Norway.

19TH SEP.—Objectives in Rhineland and airfields at Lille were bombed by Allied planes.

Hitler received the Serb Premier General Milan Neditch. Von Ribbentrop had a long talk with him.

Heavy German troops movements in Balkans were reported.

20TH SEP.—Yugoslav Liberation Army attacked the whole of Montegrin coast.

Pope was believed to be virtually a prisoner in Nazi hands.

21ST SEP.—Nazis warned the Holy See that unless it adopted a more favourable attitude towards Germany and the Italian Fascist Government, it would be "answered by force."

22ND SEP.—Yugoslav patriots were active and German position worsened in several places.

### THE FAR EAST

16TH SEP.—The Chinese Foreign Minister Dr. T. V. Soong delivered a 'secret' message from General Chiang Kai-Shek when he called on President Roosevelt to-day.

The Allies have closed in on all sides of Lae, the important Japanese base in New Guinea.

Jap liner *Yamato Maru* was torpedoed and sunk by an Allied submarine in Eastern China Sea.

17TH SEP.—Allies seized Malahang anchorage. Enemy installations at Civa town and Wewak were bombed and 40 Jap planes destroyed in a big air battle.

Japs bombed Sunga Point area on Gudalcanar island and the United States position at Russel island.

Many Japanese soldiers committed suicide in New Guinea following their defeat.

India's Agent-General in China, Mr. K. P. S. Menon, left for Chunking.

18TH SEP.—President Chiang Kai-Shek declared that the surrender of the Italian fleet had sealed Japan's fate.

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, paid a tribute to the ceaseless fight of the Chinese against the Japanese.

Rumours of Tojo's resignation were reported.

The Big Japanese base of Lae in New Guinea was captured by the Allies.

Barracks at Shilo, warehouses at Yangsin, camp installations near Kinkiang, ammunition dumps in Nanchang and military objectives in Haipong were attacked by United States bombers.

19TH SEP.—Jap bases in Tarawa and Nauru islands among Gilbert Group of Islands were heavily raided by American bombers.

20TH SEP.—Fourteen Japanese planes were destroyed in the northern Solomons. Two enemy barges laden with troops were destroyed off New Britain. Darwin was raided.

1,500 Japanese naval personnel were killed and another 500 wounded during United States Air Force raids on Yangsin Ho district.

22ND SEP.—An extraordinary meeting of the Japanese Cabinet meeting decided to accept Tojo's proposals for effective prosecution of the war.

Allied ground troops occupied Kaiapit and enemy bases in Wewak and Madang were bombed.

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